



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133 Council
Agenda for Regular Council Meeting RM.09.26
9:00 a.m., Wednesday, May 13, 2026

The Regular Meeting of the Council of the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 will be held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Office situated at 4202 50th Street in the Town of Spirit River in the Province of Alberta on Wednesday, May 13th, 2026 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

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<p>B.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Third Party Business Interests: (<i>Access to Information Act, Part 1, Division 2, Exceptions to Disclosure ATIA Section 16, Third Party Business Interests</i>) 	
<p>C.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic and Other Interests: (<i>Access to Information Act, Part 1, Division 2, Exceptions to Disclosure ATIA Section 30, Economic and Other Interests</i>) 	
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MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133 Council
Minutes for Regular Council Meeting RM.08.26
9:00 a.m., Wednesday, April 22, 2026

1

The Regular Meeting of the Council of the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Office situated at 4202 50th Street in the Town of Spirit River in the Province of Alberta on Wednesday, April 22, 2026 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

In attendance:

Council Members: Reeve Tony van Rootselaar
Deputy Reeve Dean Wark
Councillor Shelley Rozecki
Councillor Evelyn Bzowy

Absent: Councillor Bernie Schoorlemmer

Administration: Shirley Hayden, CAO
Monty Bremont, Assistant CAO
Elena Valdes, CFO
Dave Johnson, Public Works Supervisor
Simon Amting, Agricultural Fieldman
Rebecca Fitzsimmons, Recording Secretary

Ken Drysdale, Chairman, Maskwa Medical Center

1.

CALL TO ORDER

Reeve van Rootselaar called meeting RM 08-26 to order at 9:03 am.

2.

AGENDA ADDITIONS

Addition of the following items:

Addendum Items :

- 13.A Funding for CP Medical Clinic
- 15.T. Correspondence and Information - Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors, Traffic Safety Fund Letters & Applications
- 17.C. Closed Session, to discuss Third Party Business Interests
- 17.D. Closed Session, to discuss Economic & Other Interests

Request to add:

13.C MD Newsletter

Remove the following item:

8.B. MPC.

3. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**
- 203.04.22.26 Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark to accept the Agenda for Regular Council Meeting RM 08-26 with the following amendments:
- Addition of the following items:
 Addendum Items :
 13.A Funding for CP Medical Clinic
 15.T. Correspondence and Information - Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors, Traffic Safety Fund Letters & Applications
 17.C. Closed Session, to discuss Third Party Business Interests
 17.D. Closed Session, to discuss Economic & Other Interests
 Request to add:
 13.C MD Newsletter
 Remove the following item:
 8.B. MPC.
- Carried unanimously.*
4. **ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**
- A. 204.04.22.26 Moved by Councillor Bzowy to accept the minutes for RM 07-26 Meeting as presented.
- Carried unanimously.*
5. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**
6. **COUNCILLOR ABSENCES**
7. **PUBLIC HEARING**
8. **DELEGATIONS**
- A. Ken Drysdale, Maskwa Medical Center Chairman of the Board, joined the meeting RM 08-26, at 9:06 am, and presented information regarding the Maskwa Medical Center under development in Grande Prairie, Alberta.
- Delegation left the meeting at 9:55 am.
9. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

10. REPORTS
- A. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT
- 205.04.22.26 Moved by Councillor Bzowy that Council direct Administration to extend the advertising for the two MD graders, ensuring they are advertised in the MD newsletter, and further that if there is no expressed interest by buyers, that Administration is directed to arrange for sale in the upcoming Weaver Auction scheduled for June 2026.
Carried unanimously.
- 206.04.22.26 Moved by Councillor Rozecki that Council accept the Public Works Supervisor's report for information.
Carried unanimously.
- B. AGRICULTURAL FIELDMAN REPORT
- 207.04.22.26 Moved by Councillor Bzowy that Council accepts the Agricultural Fieldman's verbal report for information.
Carried unanimously.
- C. FINANCE REPORT
- 208.04.22.26 Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark that Council accept the CFO finance report for information.
Carried unanimously.
- D. CAO REPORT
- 209.04.22.26 Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark to accept the CAO report for information.
Carried unanimously.
- E. COUNCIL REPORTS
- 210.04.22.26 Moved by Councillor Rozecki to accept Deputy Reeve Wark's Central Peace Fire and Rescue report for information.
Carried unanimously.
- Reeve van Rootselaar recessed Meeting RM 08-26 at 10:39, and reconvened the meeting at 10:46 am.
Carried unanimously.
- 211.04.22.26 Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark to accept Reeve van Rootsefaar's Central Peace Medical Clinic report for information.
Carried unanimously.

212.04.22.26 Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark that Council direct Administration to engage the Central Peace Regional Water Commission regarding the waterline installation project and request access on behalf of the MD of Spirit River.

Carried unanimously.

213.04.22.26 Deputy Reeve Wark moved that Council accept Councillor Bzowy's Central Peace Attraction and Retention committee report as information.

Carried unanimously.

11. TABLED ITEMS AND OLD BUSINESS

12. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES

13. NEW BUSINESS

A. 214.04.22.26 Moved by Councillor Rozecki that Council approve the 2025 Medical Clinic Deficit Requisition and the 2026 Capital Requisition as follows: 1. The 2025 Operating Deficit in the amount of \$7,949.12; 2. the 2026 Annual Capital Requisition (20% portion) of \$2,000.00, to come from reserves; and 3. the 2026 Special Renovation Requisition (20% portion) of \$13,000.00, to come from reserves; for a total requisition of \$22,949.12, of which \$15,000.00 is to come from reserves.

Carried unanimously.

B. 215.04.22.26 Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark to accept the Operating and Capital Budgets as presented with the change in the pie chart colour.

Carried unanimously.

C. 216.04.22.26 Moved by Councillor Rozecki to accept Addition to Agenda Item 13. C. MD Newsletter, as information

Carried unanimously.

14. BYLAWS

A. Bylaw 01-2026

217.04.22.26 Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark that Bylaw 01-2026: Bylaw for the Purpose of Designating Plants as Noxious or Prohibited Noxious be given Third and Final Reading, and finally passed.

Carried unanimously.

B. Bylaw 02-2026

- 218.04.22.26** Moved by Councillor Bzowy that Bylaw 02-2026, for the purpose of authorizing the Rates of Taxation for the 2026 Taxation Year, be given First Reading.
Carried unanimously.
- 219.04.22.26** Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark that Bylaw 02-2026 be given Second Reading.
Carried unanimously.
- 220.04.22.26** Moved by Reeve van Rootselaar that consent be given for Third Reading of Bylaw 02-2026.
Carried unanimously.
- 221.04.22.26** Moved by Councillor Rozecki that Bylaw 02-2026 for the purpose of authorizing the Rates of Taxation for the 2026 Taxation Year be read a third and final time, and be passed.
Carried unanimously.

Agricultural Fieldman Simon Amting left Meeting RM 08-26 at 12:02 pm.

Councillor Rozecki left Council Chambers at 12:08 pm and returned at 12:12 pm.

Public Works Supervisor Dave Johnson left Council Chambers at 12:21 pm.

15.

CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION

- 222.04.22.26** Moved by Councillor Bzowy that Council of the MD of Spirit River No. 133 hereby proclaims the week of May 3 – 9, 2026 as Emergency Preparedness Week within the Municipal District; further that Council encourages all residents to take proactive steps toward personal and community safety by identifying local risks, developing a household emergency plan, and preparing an emergency kit to ensure they can be self sufficient for at least 72 hours in the event of an emergency.
Carried unanimously.
- 223.04.22.26** Moved by Councillor Rozecki that Administration send a letter to the Central Peace Fire and Rescue Commission suggesting a ten-year debenture for the financing for the construction of the new fire hall.
Carried unanimously.
- 224.04.22.26** Moved by Councillor Rozecki that Council accept Information and Correspondence Items A through T as information.

Carried unanimously.

Deputy Reeve Wark left Council Chambers at 12:41 and returned at 12:42 pm.

Reeve van Rootselaar recessed meeting RM 08-26 for lunch at 12:43 pm, and reconvened meeting at 1:04 pm.

Carried unanimously.

16.

COUNCIL ISSUES AND CONCERNS

17.

CLOSED MEETING (FORMERLY IN-CAMERA)

225.04.22.26

Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark to enter into closed session at 1:04 pm, as per Municipal Government Act R.S.A. 2000, Section 197 (4) to discuss:

- A. Economic and Other Interests (*Access to Information Act, Part 1, Division 2, Exceptions to Disclosure ATIA Section 30, Economic and Other Interests*);
- B. Intermunicipal Relations (*Access to Information Act, Part 1, Division 2, Exceptions to Disclosure ATIA Section 26*);
- C. Third Party Business Interests: (*Access to Information Act, Part 1, Division 2, Exceptions to Disclosure ATIA Section 16, Third Party Business Interests*);
- D. Economic and Other Interests (*Access to Information Act, Part 1, Division 2, Exceptions to Disclosure ATIA Section 30, Economic and Other Interests*).

Carried unanimously.

Public Works Supervisor Dave Johnson joined the closed session portion of Meeting RM 08-26 at 1:14 pm, and left the meeting at 1:35 pm.

226.04.22.26

Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark to come out of closed session at 2:43 pm.

Carried unanimously.

Regular Meeting RM 08-26 resumed at 1:43 pm.

227.04.22.26

Moved by Councillor Bzowy that Council accepts the Regional Childcare Solutions Steering Committee's recommendation of the proposed site, authorizes the MD to proceed with a Development Permit Application, and directs Administration to formalize an agreement with Fire and Form Architecture and Engineering to act as the Authorized Agent for the application process.

Carried unanimously.

228.04.22.26

Moved by Councillor Rozecki that Council direct Administration to:

1. Contact the participating municipalities to advise that MD membership in the committee is subject to a review of the Terms of Reference; and
2. Coordinate the hosting of the next committee meeting by the MD on July 30, 2026, pending the outcome of that review.

Carried unanimously.

229.04.22.26

Moved by Reeve van Rootselaar to approve the Policy PWS.15 with amendments as presented and also the following further amendments: add to item 2a) "As per Public Works Supervisor discretion" to read "Application rate of 2.5 litres per square metre for the average width of 9.144 metres (30ft). Residents will be required to pay \$7.50 per lineal meter subsidized at 50% by the municipality, as per the Public Works Supervisor discretion."; further remove items 2c and 3c portion that says "(Note that Energy Companies may pay the costs - contact them as required)."; and add to item 4.a. the words 'social media' to read "Notice of the Dust control program is advertised in the MD Newsletter at least in one issue in the spring of each year, and on all Municipal social media".

Carried unanimously.

230.04.22.26

Moved by Councillor Rozecki to accept Item 17.D as information.

Carried unanimously.

18.

ADJOURNMENT

Reeve van Rootselaar adjourned meeting RM 08-26 at 2:46 pm.

These minutes approved this _____ day of _____, 2026.

 Reeve
 Tony Van Rootselaar

 CAO
 Shirley Hayden



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133 Council
Minutes for Special Meeting of Council: SM 01-26
9:00 am, April 27th, 2026

The Special Meeting of the Council of the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133 was held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Office situated at 4202 50th Street in the Town of Spirit River in the Province of Alberta on Monday, April 27th, 2026, beginning at 9:00 am.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Council Members: Reeve Tony van Rootselaar
 Deputy Reeve Dean Wark
 Councillor Shelley Rozecki (*entered Council Chambers at 9:20 am*)
 Councillor Evelyn Bzowy
 Councillor Bernie Schoorlemmer

Administration: Shirley Hayden, CAO
 Elena Valdes, CFO
 Rebecca Fitzsimmons, Recording Secretary

Delegation: Edward Telford, JDP Wasserman – 2025 Audited Financial Statements

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Reeve van Rootselaar called Meeting SM 01-26: 2025 Audited Financial Statements to order at 9:06 am.

2. **AGENDA ADDITIONS**

No additions to the Agenda.

3. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

SM 231.04.27.26 Moved by Councillor Bzowy to accept the Agenda for SM 01-26: 2025 Audited Financial Statements as presented.

Carried unanimously

4. **ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Minutes from last Special Meeting SM 05-25 were adopted at Regular Meeting RM 11-25, by motion 212.11.03.25.

5. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

6. **COUNCILLOR ABSENCES**

7. **PUBLIC HEARING**

8. **DELEGATIONS**

A. **JDP Wasserman – 2025 Audited Financial Statements**

Delegation JDP Wasserman represented by Edward Telford began presentation of 2025 Audited Financial Statement at 9:07 am, and concluded the presentation at 10:17 am, and left Council Chambers at 10:17 am.

SM 232.04.27.26 Moved by Deputy Reeve Wark that the 2025 audit findings report and the 2025 audited consolidated financial statements ending December 31st, 2025, for the Municipal District of Spirit River No.133, as presented by professional Chartered Accountant, Edward Telford of JDP Wasserman and Associates, be accepted as presented.

Carried unanimously

9. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES**

10. **REPORTS**

11. **TABLED ITEMS AND OLD BUSINESS**

12. **RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES**

13. **NEW BUSINESS**

14. **BYLAWS**

15. **CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION**

16. COUNCIL ISSUES AND CONCERNS

17. CLOSED MEETING (FORMERLY IN-CAMERA)

18. ADJOURNMENT

Reeve van Rootselaar adjourned Special Meeting SM 01-26 at 10:17 am.

These minutes approved this _____ day of _____, 2026.

Reeve
Tony Van Rootselaar

CAO
Shirley Hayden



The Municipal District of Spirit River No.133
 Box 389, 4202-50th Street, Spirit River, Alberta T0H 3G0
 E-mail: mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca
 Telephone (780) 864-3500

May 14, 2026

Central Peace Regional Water Project

Attn: Project Management Committee

RE: Formal Expression of Interest – Regional Water Service Tie-In

To the Project Management Committee,

Following the comprehensive project update and the review of Projects 1 through 6 during the April 10th meeting, it is evident that the regional infrastructure is progressing toward a critical stage of connectivity. On behalf of the Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133, I am writing to formally express our interest in establishing a service tie-in to the Central Peace Regional Water Project.

The Municipal District recognizes the immense long-term value of this initiative. This project represents more than just a utility connection; it is a foundational investment in the resilience and health of our communities and is a transformative milestone for the region and for our Municipal District. For the MD, this tie-in is the bedrock upon which future growth is built; representing a shift from localized water vulnerability to regional stability, further benefiting the fiscal and economic future of the entire region.

The completion of the water line will provide stability for years to come, ensuring that the Central Peace region remains a viable and thriving place to. By providing the essential utility required for industrial and commercial expansion, the region positions itself as a competitive destination for investment, diversifying the tax base and ensuring that our municipalities remain sustainable, and self-reliant for generations to come.

We look forward to discussing the technical requirements, timelines, and collaborative steps necessary to facilitate this tie-in. Thank you for your continued dedication to this vital regional project.

Sincerely,

COPY

Reeve Tony Van Rootselaar

Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133

MD OF SPIRIT RIVER

AGRICULTURAL FIELDMAN REPORT

DATE: May 5th, 2026

SUBMITTED BY: Agricultural Fieldman, Simon Amting

ANNUAL OPERATING PROGRAMS, PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES:

<i>Program/Activity/Project</i>	<i>Timeline</i>	<i>Comments</i>
PRAAAF Update & Outreach/ Extension		ASB Grant Reporting finished for 2025 Weed/Spray Workshop May 13/14- Rycroft Tree pruning workshop May 5 th – Gordondale AG Safety June 10 th – Rycroft GOV ASB Field Visit June 25 th ASB Meeting June 30 th
Roadside Mowing	Ongoing	New Shulte Mower and Sidearm should will be delivered any day now. Prepping Old Mowers and Sidearms for Weavers Auction
General		Ordered New Pickup for ASB and Public works, Will be picking up third week in May Ordered New Zero Turn, Will be picking up May 8 th
Weed Management & Pest Management	Ongoing	Revisiting Weed sites from 2025 looking for new growth. Getting Spray Truck ready for the season. Inspecting Beaverdam's throughout the MD.

Cemeteries	Ongoing	Grounds maintenance will go underway now that the snow is gone.
Nardam Campsite	Ongoing	<p>Primed water system at Nardam and opened Campsite for May 1st. Installed Fountains at same time.</p> <p>Will be maintaining and conducting grounds maintenance at Nardam.</p> <p>Orchard trees delivered June 8th, Will be seeding and fertilizing lawn at Nardam.</p>
Seasonal Staff	Ongoing	Two Highschool students are returning, they start end of June. Hired one new weed inspector that will begin in a few weeks. Still interviewing for Roadside Mowers.
Safety for Public Works	Ongoing	<p>Safety Meeting postponed until Dave is back.</p> <p>Will be going through Equipment with AG staff before the season begins.</p>
Rate Payer Concerns & Compliments		



**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

DATE: May 13th, 2026

Administrative	<p>There was a water leak at the MD Office in early April. The issue was temporarily fixed but then points of entry and successfully applied temporary repairs.</p> <p>Focus is evaluating long-term repair options to ensure the issue is fully resolved. This evaluation will take place over the summer, and we will provide more detailed updates once the final scope of work is determined.</p>	
Grading	Started annual gravel haul May 3rd, We have been blading the areas with grader.	
Plowing		
Gravel		
Culvert Installation/Repair		
Washouts	Fixed multiple washouts eg; Township 79, Township 772, Range Road 70, Range Road 665, Range Road 60, RR 41.	
Brushing		
Signage	Sign stating "Local Traffic Only" has been ordered for Highway 49.	
Bridge Files		
Nardam		
Public Works Shop		
Equipment	Kenworth is in the shop being fixed; throttle positioner sensor, Water Truck repairs; Bi-directional hydraulic valve.	
Training		
Ratepayer Comments		
Miscellaneous	<p>The two used graders , continue to be listed for sale on MD website, Facebook, and in MD newsletter.</p> <p>Andrew Wells will be attending a future meeting to discuss fuel pricing and answer any questions council may have regarding fuel storage options.</p>	

Finance Department Report

Audit Completion

- The annual audit has been successfully completed.
- The May 1 submission deadline was met in full compliance with legislative requirements.

Grants & Reporting

- The Statement of Expenditures (SEPO) has been submitted for the Canada Community-Building Fund (CCBF) Grant.
- Final reporting for the Alberta Community Partnership (ACP) Grant has also been completed and submitted.
- Based on submitted reports, the municipality is expected to receive approximately:
 - \$87,000 from the CCBF grant
 - \$50,000 from the ACP grant
- These funds will help offset additional expenses incurred during project completion.

Tax Season Preparation

- Administration is currently preparing for the upcoming tax season.
- The goal is to have all tax notices completed, printed, and ready for mailing by mid-June.

LAPP Audit Preparation

- Communication has begun with the auditor in preparation for the upcoming LAPP audit.
- The submission deadline for the LAPP audit is June 30.

Payroll Update

- Payroll has been processed as of May 8, with updated wages reflecting the approved Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) increase.

General Reminder to council:

Please remember that council timesheets and expenses are due by the 25th of each month.



CAO Report: May 13th, 2026

Reporting Period: April 22nd – May 10th 2026

Central Peace Fire and Rescue Commission:

CPFRC brought forward a formal funding request in relation to the new Fire Hall to the Town of Spirit River, the Village of Rycroft, and the MD of Spirit River.

Village of Rycroft response: The Village of Rycroft, an active member of the Central Peace Fire & Rescue Commission reviewed the letter provided by the Commission, dated April 15 2026. The letter outlined the request for partner municipalities to make a capital contributions to accommodate the expected deficit of \$1.5 million for the development of the new Spirit River based Fire Hall. After review of the 2026 budget the Village of Rycroft must advise that it is not able to provide the requested payment of \$345,000 in the current calendar year. This one request would result in the village having a deficit for 2026. The Village of Rycroft is dedicated to remaining an active member within the Commission but recommends the Commission consider utilizing the current Rycroft fire hall to meet the commission's response needs along Highway 2 and within the Village of Rycroft. Further details can be discussed at an upcoming Commission meeting. Regards James Verquin, Mayor Village of Rycroft

The Town of Spirit River response: The Town of Spirit River has reviewed the April 15, 2026 correspondence from the Central Peace Fire & Rescue Commission, outlining a request for partner municipalities to confirm capital contributions to address an anticipated funding shortfall of approximately \$1.5 million for the development of a new fire hall to be located in Spirit River. At its regular meeting, Council passed MOTION 26-107, MOVED by Councillor Nicholson that Council approve participation in the Central Peace Fire and Rescue regional fire hall project and authorize Administration to provide a letter of intent confirming a municipal contribution of up to \$550,000, subject to final project costs and provided that the CPFRC funding models is met by all participating municipalities. Carried. The Town of Spirit River is committed to supporting regional fire protection services and recognizes the importance of this project in enhancing emergency response capacity across the region. We look forward to continued collaboration with the Commission and participating municipalities as the project progresses. Mayor Tammy Yaremko, Town of Spirit River.

Administration has followed up with a letter to the commission discussing the municipality's plans and financial considerations for developing a new fire hall. The letter relayed that while Council appreciates clarity on the fire hall project status, the municipality is evaluating funding options to ensure fiscal responsibility. In the coming weeks, upon review of the preliminary financial figures, Council is interested in exploring debenture options for financing, with the goal of identifying the most favorable interest rate and efficient repayment structure.



CAO Report: May 13th, 2026

Friendly Reminders: Upcoming Meetings and Events:

Rycroft Ag Centre is hosting:

The "You Make THE Difference" initiative, led by humanitarian and social innovator **Ian Hill**,

Young Adults First Identifiers - June 16th, 2026

First Identifiers Training – June 17th, 2026

Ian is a national leadership and community-building speaker, primarily focused on revitalizing rural communities, agricultural societies, and volunteer organizations.

Delivered as a grant-funded tour that travels across North America to provide training and resources to those Ian calls "Difference Makers"—the everyday volunteers and local leaders who keep small towns and rural institutions alive.

The initiative is designed to address the specific "shifting landscape" of modern volunteerism and rural life through three main pillars:

- **Volunteer Sustainability:** Tackling volunteer shortages by teaching modern recruitment and retention strategies, particularly how to engage Millennials and Gen Z.
- **Leadership Development:** Providing "New Era" leadership training to fair boards and agricultural societies to help them manage financial sustainability and avoid "leadership fatigue" or burnout.
- **Mental Health & Social Connection:** A significant branch of the initiative (often called the *Empowering Minds* project) focuses on rural mental health. Ian uses his platform to reduce the stigma around suicide and isolation, encouraging communities to "catch issues upstream" through better local connection.

RMA Member Visit – MD SPIRIT RIVER NO.133 VISIT - 2026

Confirmed Date and Time:

- **Date: June 24, 2026**
- **Time: 11:00 a.m.**

The visit will include the RMA President, our District Director, and members of the RMA administrative team. This engagement serves as a vital opportunity for Council to: Discuss local



CAO Report: May 13th, 2026

priorities and municipal initiatives directly with RMA leadership, highlight specific regional challenges facing our municipality and strengthen our advocacy efforts by ensuring the RMA has a firsthand understanding of our current requirements.

G5 Municipalities Meeting (July 8) – 5:00p.m. @ the Brownlee Building

Guest Speakers:

- **Derek Young:** Operations Manager (or Regional Representative) with Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors.
-
- **Max Fritz,** owner , Western Sky Land Trust - Strategic Planning, Community Building

Strategic Planning - Max Fritz, Western Sky Land Trust

Full day session: July 9th - 9 a.m.

Half day session: July 10th - 10a.m.

Alberta Sheriffs Police Service Presentation

Brian Kostyniuk, Executive Officer and Chief Satpal Parhar:

Confirmed Date: Wednesday, September 9, 2026

Time: 9:00 a.m. (Regular Council Meeting)

RMA DISTRICT FOUR ZONE MEETING

RMA District Four Zone Meeting

Friday, August 14th, 2026

Pioneer Threshman's Hall, located 14km west of High Prairie.



CAO Report: May 13th, 2026

Central Peace Family and Community Support Services Agreement Update

Amending Agreement is now signed and will remain as active in the system until such time as the MD completes the reporting for January-June 2026 (administration will be able to complete in January 2027 and is due by April 30, 2027).

Northern Lights Fiber Follow up – MD resident line tie in:

Administration has been in consistent active contact with Northern Lights Fiber regarding the long-awaited service tie-ins for residents located along the fiber lines installed two years ago. The current update confirms that Northern Lights Fiber is moving into the final residential connection phase for our area, following the recent integration of their regional network.

Hey Shirley,

Hugely appreciate your patience with us/ me on this one!

I chatted with Jodi on this some more and it sounds like we will have an update in about a month, and we will schedule some time to chat just after.

If you need anything else in the meantime, please feel free to give me a shout here or via phone anytime!

Best,
Cole

Cole Summach
Commercial Sales Manager



CAO Report: May 13th, 2026

RMA INSURANCE – MD BUILDING ASSESSMENTS

Reached out to Cameron Vierboom *Manager of Claims*, Insurance , Rural Municipalities of Alberta , regarding our conversation during the RMA conference in March. We touched on the possibility of coordinating a site tour of the Municipal District of Spirit River buildings later this year. I reiterated the MD is interested in moving forward with scheduling this tour for late summer or fall. Additionally, that we would like to discuss the process for having these sites formally assessed during that time. Cam responded and is engaging with his risk advisors to set up a tour date at the MD.

Daycare letters of support:

BIG Thank you to our neighbouring municipalities and local organizations that wrote letters of support for the Spirit River Regional Daycare initiative. Letters of support have been included in the meeting Agenda.

Meeting with Toso Bozic, P.Ag. the CEO and Founder of ATTS Group Inc.

Toso Bozic is a renowned tree expert and consultant with over 30 years of experience in forestry, agro-forestry, and rural development. He recently visited the Municipal District administration to share his strategic expertise in economic development, focusing on land revitalization and diversifying the local tax base.

During his visit, he highlighted several high-value opportunities, including:

- **Provincial & Federal Funding:** He provided guidance on connecting with major grants, such as the Green Municipal Fund (GMF) for housing and renewable energy, and Tree Canada for community greening projects.
- **Regional Collaboration:** Toso emphasized the importance of collaborating with neighbors and industry partners—such as G3—to leverage the MD’s unique position as a gateway for northern and western commerce.
- **Investment Readiness:** Offered his insight on how to transform underutilized land.

Working with Alberta Counsel on assessment of the Rawlek Slide STIP Application

Central Peace Medical Services Corporation

Meeting Minutes

April 10th, 2026

Ross Family Room · Centennial Hall · Spirit River

PRESENT:	Tony Van Rootselaar, Chair	MD Spirit River No.133
	Ed Armagost	Saddle Hills County
	Ryan Funk	Town of Spirit River (alt)
	Roxann Dreger	Village of Rycroft
	Albert Poetker	Birch Hills County
	Cary Merritt, COO	Saddle Hills County
	Shirley Hayden	MD Spirit River No.133
	Steve Jack	Town of Spirit River
	Kevin Keller	Village of Rycroft

Call to Order

Chair Van Rootselaar called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

1. Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Albert Poetker that the April 10th, 2026, meeting agenda for the Central Peace Medical Services Corporation be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

2. Adoption of the December 4th, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Moved by Ed Armagost that the Central Peace Medical Services Corporation December 4th, 2025, meeting minutes, be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

3. Chief Operating Officer Report

The COO reviewed his report.

Clinic Renovation: The Board will be presented several detailed renovation quotes included in the agenda package. These projects remain a priority to ensure the facility is optimized for physician recruitment and retention.

Administrative Transition: Due to the upcoming resignation of the Town of Spirit River CAO in June 2026, the Board will be required to appoint a new Treasurer and a new signing authority to ensure administrative continuity. Banking documentation will be prepared to reflect the change in Treasurer and signing authority effective prior to the June transition once the Treasurer is appointed.

Pest Control: Administration is currently exploring and implementing pigeon deterrent measures; it was noted that these represent an unbudgeted operational cost. Also, a metal transitional gap preventor is required at the east entrance door.

Winter Maintenance: Exceptional snowfall levels and subsequent melt cycles have created challenges for site snow removal. A roof leak was identified in the building's primary entrance area following the recent snowmelt; assessment and remediation efforts are underway.

Moved by Ryan Funk that the COD report be accepted as presented for information.

CARRIED

Roxann Dreger entered the meeting at 9:17 AM

4. Old Business

4.1 Building Renovations

Project Review: The Board evaluated proposed renovation projects for the medical clinic to determine priority levels for the 2026 calendar year. The primary goal of these improvements is to modernize the facility to enhance recruitment efforts for additional physicians.

Requisition Increase: The Board discussed that the annual capital requisition potentially be increased to \$75,000 for 2026 and a letter of request be sent to the respective councils with the annual requisition notices.

Funding Breakdown:

\$10,000: Standard annual Capital requisition. Broken down by percentages.

\$65,000: Additional requisition specifically for the new capital improvements. Broken down by percentages.

Approved Scope: Funding designated for Project Numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4 as outlined in the presented priority renovation list. Estimated at \$112,249.52.

Moved by Chair Van Rootseelaar that the Board approves the building renovations estimate provided by Diamond B Builders, aside from Project V and Project VI, for the Central Peace Medical Clinic in the amount of \$112,249.52.

CARRIED

5. New Business

5.1 2025 Financial Statements/ Requisitions

2025 Deficit Requisition: It has been determined that a deficit requisition of \$39,745.59 is required to reconcile the 2025 fiscal year. In accordance with the established G5 funding model, the costs will be apportioned approximately as follows:

Municipality	Allocation	Contribution
Saddle Hills County	30%	\$11,923.67 (rounded)
MD of Spirit River No.133	20%	\$7,949.12
Town of Spirit River	20%	\$7,949.12
Birch Hills County	20%	\$7,949.12
Village of Rycroft	10%	\$3,974.56
Total	100%	\$39,745.59

Formal letters regarding the 2025 deficit requisition will be issued to the respective G5 partners next week.

Moved by Roxann Dreger that the Board direct Administration to submit a formal request to the G5 municipal partner councils to increase the Central Peace Medical Services Corporation capital requisition to \$75,000 for the 2026 calendar year and to investigate whether the capital work may qualify for a Community Facility Enhancement Program (CFEP) grant.

Moved by Roxann Dreger that the 2025 Financial Statement be adopted as presented. **CARRIED**

5.2 Officer Appointments/ Signing Authority

Moved by Roxann Dreger that the Board appoint the Chief Administrative Officer of the Village of Rycroft as the Treasurer for the Central Peace Medical Services Corporation; and further, that Mr. Kevin Keller be granted formal signing authority for all corporate financial accounts effective immediately.

CARRIED

6. Information Items /Correspondence

7. Next Meeting

To be determined

8. Adjournment Chair Tony Van Rootselaar adjourned the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

Chair Van Rootselaar

COO Merritt

CONFIDENTIAL



CENTRAL PEACE REGIONAL WATER SYSTEM COLLABORATION COMMITTEE MEETING

April 10th, 2026

Ross Family Room – Centennial Hall, Spirit River

10:30 a.m.

MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT

Albert Poetker, Reeve
Ed Armagost, Councillor
Cary Merritt, CAO
Brent Potter, Councillor
Steve Jack, CAO
Kevin Keller, CAO
Bernie Schoorlemmer, Councillor
Shirley Hayden, CAO

Birch Hills County
Saddle Hills County
Saddle Hills County
Town of Spirit River
Town of Spirit River
Village of Rycroft
MD Spirit River
MD Spirit River

1. **Call to Order** – Chair Armagost called the meeting to order at 10:32am.

2. **Adoption of Agenda**

Moved by Albert Poetker

That the agenda for the April 10th, 2026 Central Peace Regional Water System Collaboration Committee Meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

3. **Adoption of Previous Minutes**

MOVED by Bernie Schoorlemmer

That the minutes of December 4th, 2025 Central Peace Regional Water System Collaboration Committee Meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED



4. **Central Peace Regional Water Supply Project (Phase 1 & 2)**

4.1 MPE Engineering Progress Report – April 8th, 2026

The report was presented.

Moved by Albert Poetker

That the MPE Engineering Progress Report – April 8th, 2026, be accepted as information.

CARRIED

5. **Central Peace Regional Water Supply Project – (Phase 3)**

5.1 Cary provided a verbal update, noting the partial reservoir construction contract has been awarded to Northern Road Builders Grant in the amount of \$8,679,026.6. Construction expected to be from May 11th to September 12th. Funding for this phase includes a Water for Life grant of \$12.787M and \$2.256M from Saddle Hills County for a total of \$15,043,995. Additional \$9M or less in grant funding may be expected in Spring 2026 or later to complete the reservoir construction project (Phase 3).

Moved by Brent Schoorlemmer

That the Central Peace Regional Water Supply Project – (Phase 3) update be accepted as information.

CARRIED

6. **Central Peace Regional Water Project – New Regional WTP (Design)**

6.1 Cary noted the project has received \$2M in grant funding with a \$222,222 municipal contribution for a total budget of \$2,222,222. Construction is expected to take between 1.5 – 2 years. The detailed design is past 85% completion.

Moved by Albert Poetker

That the Central Peace Regional Water Project – New Regional WTP (Design) update be accepted as information.

CARRIED



7. Central Peace Regional Water Project (Overall)

7.1 Present & Future Funding Requirement

Cary provided an overview of grant funding and contributions to date. There may be correspondence in May of 2026 regarding additional funding for contract 3 of Phase 1 & 2. Approximate cost is \$26M. Remaining funds to complete Phase 3 is also waiting for further correspondence from the Province. Once these contracts are complete funding for the construction of the new water treatment plant and municipal connections will be next. Approximate cost of \$40M, at this time, inclusive of the Town of Spirit River, Village of Rycroft and the Hamlet of Woking. Connections to Birch Hills County and Saddle Hills County yet to be determined.

Moved by Bernie Schoolemmer

That the Present & Future Funding Requirement update be accepted as information.

CARRIED

7.2 Governance Discussion

The Committee was updated on the governance model for Northern Sunrise County which was setup as a Part 9 Company with four members, including a village and two indigenous communities. The information provided was vague and inconsistent. Discussion ensued on considering hiring a facilitator to pursue the process through a grant.

8. Next Meeting

To be determined.

9. Adjournment

Chair Armagost adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.



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CENTRAL PEACE REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM PHASES 1 & 2

PROJECT OVERVIEW

May 06, 2026

NOTE: Sections that include notable updates are highlighted in bold text.

1. **Steel Pipe Contract for Peace River Valley Hill (Contract 2):** *The General Contractor for the Contract 2 work is Option Excavating Inc. Horizontal drilling of steel portion of the pipe was completed on February 04, 2025, which was then followed by reaming of the hole with a 26" reamer head. Reaming operations were completed and the 16" (400 mm) diameter steel pipe was successfully pulled back through the reamed drill passage on March 04, 2025. The total length of the HDD steel pipe installation was 1,770 m. The HDD Subcontractor, The Crossing Company, then demobilized their equipment off site. The transition of the pipeline material to high density polyethylene (HDPE) plastic at the top of the hill with installation of the section of HDPE pipe to reach the road allowance at the west end of the field (approximately 900 m) commenced in April 2025 and was completed in May 2025, installed by open cut trenching method of installation. Installation of a valve and temporary pig launch riser was completed in June 2025. Work remaining for the Contract 2 project includes the final installation of the pig launching/receiving concrete vault at the bottom of the hill on the steel pipe portion of the pipeline. The vault at the top of the hill was installed in April 2026. Re-mobilization of equipment to site for the vault installations occurred in February 2026. Clearing of snow was required along the County roads at the top of the Valley hill to gain access to the project site. Construction of a temporary ice road was completed in early March 2026 with D6 dozer and two water trucks to provide access to the pipe location and protect against damage to the farm field. Excavation to expose the end of the previously installed steel piping proceeded and the excavation for the valve chamber vault was completed. The concrete valve chamber vaults with long delivery dates were delivered to site on March 10, 2026. Installation of the pig launch/receiving vault at the top of the Valley hill together with the corresponding pipe connections were completed in April before the crew moved to the Dunvegan location to install the vault and balance of piping at the bottom of the Valley hill. The vault at the bottom of the hill was confirmed to be undersized to accommodate the higher pressure valves so a larger vault has been ordered with delivery scheduled for mid-May 2026. Coordination between the Contract 1 Contractor, Greenfield Construction, and the Contract 2 Contractor, Option Excavating, must be executed for sharing of the work area at the Dunvegan site during the lower vault installations. Option Excavating anticipates that installation of the bottom concrete valve chamber vault and the final sections of steel piping that connect into the vault structure shall be completed by late May or early June 2026 followed by pipe flushing and leakage testing in June. Final site restoration around the concrete vault locations will follow the installation work after spring thaw. Photos of the Contract 2 construction are attached.*

2. **River Intake and Raw Water Transfer Station (Contract 1):** *Following award of the Contract by Saddle Hills County in late May 2025, Greenfield Construction mobilized their jobsite trailer facilities to the Dunvegan project site and commenced construction on site in July 2025 with the access road construction down the hill to the raw water transfer station location. Bulk excavation of the project site continued through the month of September 2025 and the access roadways were constructed including the access down to the River's edge for the temporary trestle bridge and river structures construction. A 275 Ton crane with 170 foot boom was utilized on the River for the assembly and disassembly of the temporary trestle bridge that provides access to the river intake structure. Construction of the trestle bridge was started in mid-October 2025 and was completed in November 2025. The decision was then made by the Contractor in November to cease further works on the water to avoid the risk of getting caught by the upcoming freezing of the River. Disassembly was completed of the trestle bridge deck platform in December 2025 to protect the structure from the impending high water ice forces of the freeze up and spring thaw ice floes. The driven pile supports for the trestle bridge were left in place for the winter. Installation of the temporary cofferdam isolation system for the river intake structure shall proceed in the spring of 2026 following re-assembly of the trestle bridge deck in May 2026. The second 275 Ton crane is being utilized at the Raw Water Transfer Station wet well location. Excavation of the 28 m deep wet well within the secant pile wall shoring system was completed on October 27, 2025. The horizontal boring rig for installation of the river intake piping was positioned at the bottom of the wet well excavation and commenced boring of the 42 inch diameter steel casing for the intake pipes on October 31, 2025. The boring installation of the steel casing was completed on November 27, 2025. Installation of the river intake piping within the 42 inch steel casing was deferred pending the Contractor's return from their Christmas break in January 2026. Installation of the temporary tower staircase into the wet well was completed in November to allow for worker access to the bottom of the wet well without use of any cranes. The Contractor's winter shutdown schedule consisted of an extended Christmas break from December 12, 2025, to January 18, 2026. Following their return to site on January 19 to resume construction for the 2026 season, the initial work completed was the installation of the river intake piping (three individual pipes) within the previously installed 42 inch steel casing. Some welding pre-assembly of the intake piping was completed in advance of lowering the pipe sections into the wet well. The pipe sections were welded and then hydraulically pushed into the casing under the river bottom. All weld connections were radiographically inspected prior to acceptance. Following installation of the river intake piping the Contractor has completed grout fill installation in the 42 inch steel casing during the week of April 06, 2026 to fill the spaces between the three river intake pipes and the casing. The Contractor has next proceeded with contouring (machine grinding) of the interior concrete surfaces of the secant pile wall in advance of commencing construction of the concrete wet well tank structure within the perimeter of the secant pile wall shoring system. The procedure undertaken by the Contractor has been to remove the temporary tower staircase, then backfill the wet well excavation and utilize a small hydraulic excavator with a grinder attachment to contour grind the rounded interior surfaces of the secant pile wall shoring structure to provide a more flattened surface for the concrete wet well installation. The backfilled wet well will be re-excavated in stages as the grinder work progresses vertically down the secant pile wall interior. The remaining valleys between the secant piles are bridged by plywood backing strips and perimeter drainage panel material is installed between the secant pile wall and the concrete wet well interior structure. Photos of the Contract 1 construction are attached. Construction completion of the Contract 1 facility remains scheduled for autumn 2027.*

3. **HDPE Raw Water Transfer Piping Contracts (Contracts 3+):** The contracts for the balance of the raw water transfer pipeline that extends from the top of the river valley, south to the new Central Peace Regional Water Treatment Plant site are yet to be tendered. Working together with the County, the adjusted pipeline alignment has been determined, and the County is awaiting notification of additional grant funding from the Province. The design of the piping has been re-started in April 2026 and shall be finalized in anticipation of pending approval of funding, to prepare for tendering of the contract(s) in 2026 for construction.

4. **Electrical Service to the Pumping Station:** *The route for servicing of the Raw Water Transfer Station facility shall be from the Village of Rycroft which is the nearest connection point for the required three-phase power supply. Representatives from the County and MPE met with ATCO in Edmonton on February 01, 2023 to review the potential for decreasing the high servicing cost for the Raw Water Transfer Station. An adjusted servicing amount was received from ATCO on March 10, 2023 with an 80% load investment from ATCO as an update on the previous 60% load investment resulting in a cost reduction of approximately \$164K to the previous cost proposal. ATCO has completed site review of the finalized routing of the power line to the River location. Further to meeting with ATCO on March 07, 2024 in Edmonton, a more detailed schedule of the pumping facility usage for the initial years of operation was forwarded to ATCO for re-assessment of the projected monthly billing charges. The County then received a more updated servicing proposal agreement from ATCO in November 2024. The servicing proposal from ATCO was accepted and executed by the County in 2025. The ATCO field crew confirmed their design assumptions on site during September 2025, and a project coordination meeting with ATCO, Saddle Hills County, and MPE Engineering was held on October 17, 2025. ATCO are presently in the process of acquiring regulatory approvals, crossing agreements, laydown areas, and land easements along their powerline route to the Dunvegan project site. A coordination meeting was held on April 01, 2026 between ATCO, Saddle Hills County, and MPE to coordinate details such as the transformer location and grounding requirements at the Dunvegan Raw Water Transfer Station site. The tentative schedule for provision of power service to the Dunvegan location is late autumn 2026.*

5. **Project Budget:** An updated preliminary opinion of probable costs for the project was developed and provided to the County. The estimated costs had increased significantly since the 2018 Pre-Design Report and the County made a request to the Province for additional grant funding under the Water for Life program to make up the projected cost difference. The County had follow up meetings related to the grant request with representatives from the Province and had presented a cash flow projection to the Province that provided a schedule of expenditures over the course of the next three years as it relates to grant funding. The County met with the Province again in March 2024 and again in April 2024, and ultimately received formal response from the Province this June 2024 that confirmed additional grant amounts for the 2025 construction year. A subsequent meeting between the County and the Province for funding support occurred in early November 2024. More recently, the Grant Funding administrators for Alberta Transportation completed a tour of the project construction sites on October 02, 2025, together with the County and MPE Engineering. Saddle Hills County then had a meeting with the Provincial Minister on November 03, 2025 to review the upcoming grant requirements for the overall Central Peace Regional Water Supply System project. Updates to the previous grant applications were completed by the County and forwarded to the Province in November 2025.

NEXT STEPS

6. Continue with the construction for Contract 2, continue with construction for Contract 1, detailed design including the drafting of revised plan and profile drawings for the pipeline (Contract 3+), continue with regulatory approvals for final construction details, coordination with ATCO for power service to the Raw Water Transfer Station, seek Provincial support for the balance of grant funding for project ultimate completion.

Haj Oshiki, P.Eng.

Attachments:

1. **Contract 2 Construction Photos (2 total photos)**
2. **Contract 1 Construction Photos (6 total photos)**
3. **Contract 1 Comparison View Photos April 24, 2026 by Trevor Siemens, C.E.T.**

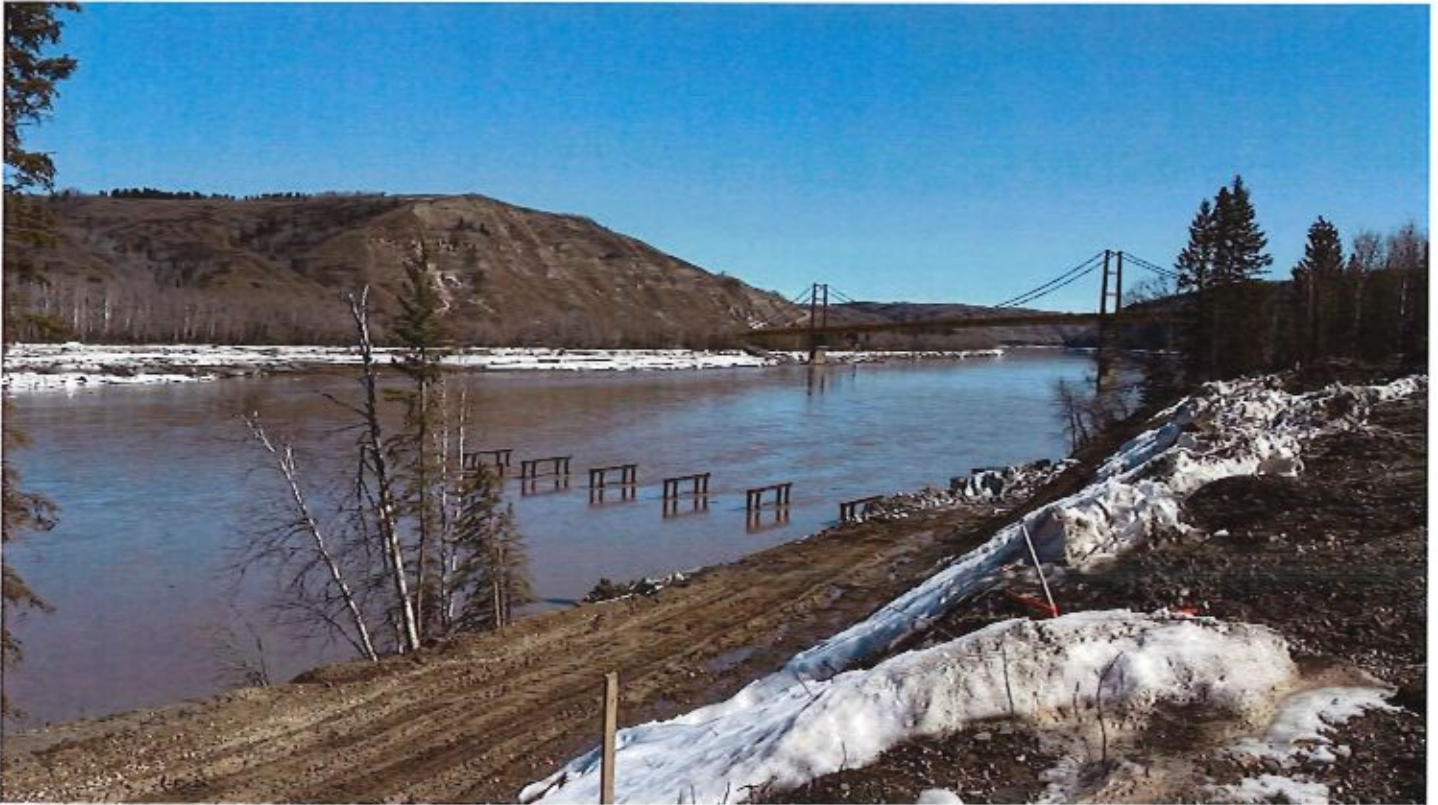
1. Contract 2 – Weld Connection of the Pipe for the Concrete Valve Chamber and Pigging Vault at Top of Peace River Valley Hill



2. Steel Pipe Connection for the Concrete Valve Chamber and Pigging Vault at Top of Peace River Valley Hill



3. Contract 1 Location - Open River Following Ice Melt in Late April 2026



4. Log Jam Debris at Temporary Trestle Bridge Pile Supports That Were Installed Before Winter Freeze Up



5. Wet Well Excavation Backfilled to Within 6m (20 feet) of Top of Secant Pile Wall



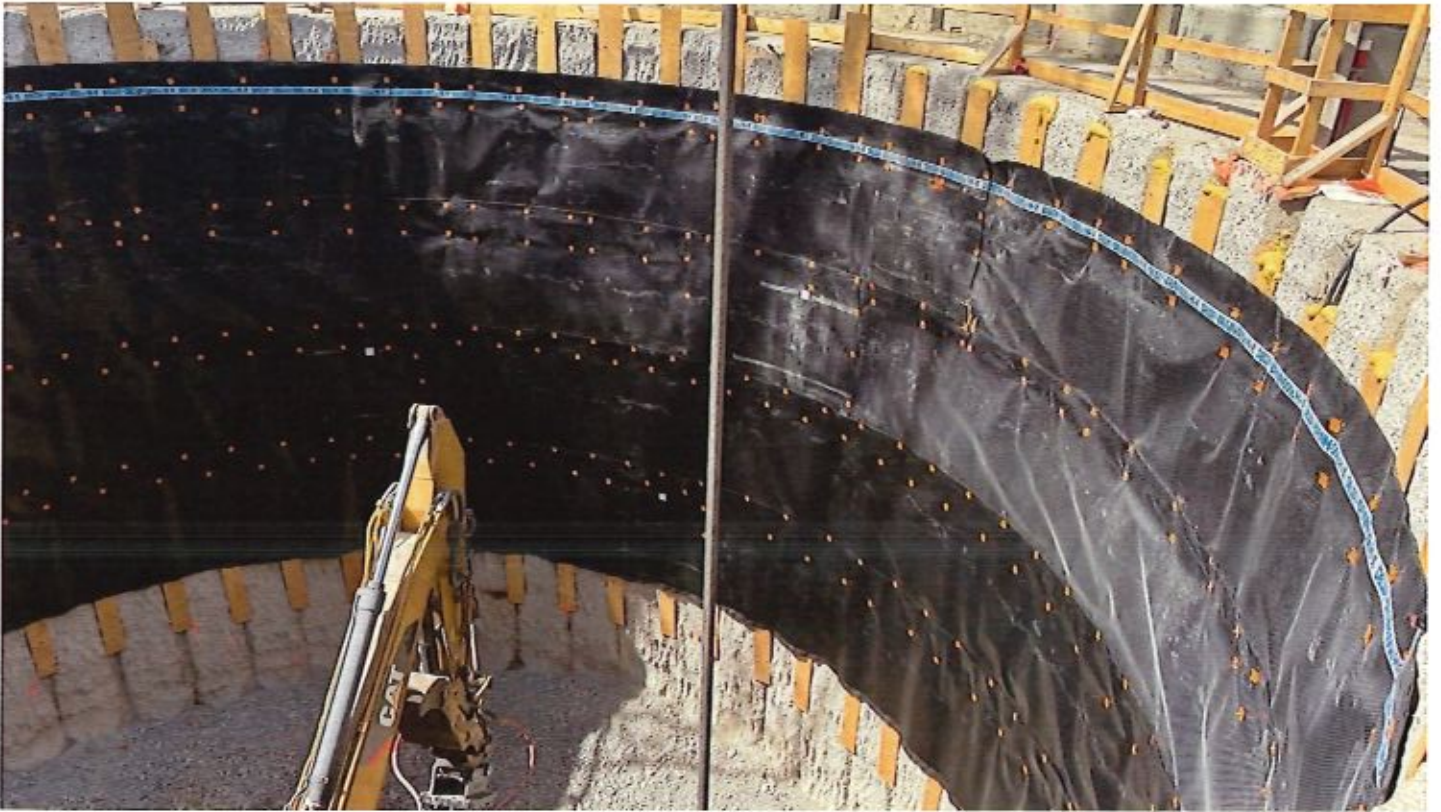
6. Contour Grinding of Interior Surface of Secant Pile Wall Shoring With Grinder Attachment on Hydraulic Excavator and Plywood Backing Strips Installed to Fill Remaining Valleys Between Secant Piles



7. Perimeter Drainage Panel Installation Following Contouring of Interior Secant Pile Wall



8. Drainage Panel Material Installed Between Secant Pile Wall Shoring and Concrete Wet Well Construction That Will Follow



Central Peace Regional Water Supply System



2024-10-23

**Contract 1 - River Intake and Raw Water Transfer Station
5201-005-01**

Key Updates

- Snow runoff management onsite
- Wet well filled with earth and secant pile grinding started
- Site work on the Contract 2 pig launch chambers continues



2026-04-17



2026-04-24



Central Peace Regional Water Supply System



*Contract 1 – River Intake and
Raw Water Transfer Station
5201-005-01*

Key Updates

- Snow runoff management onsite
- Wet well filled with earth and secant pile grinding started
- Site work on the Contract 2 pig launch chambers continues



Central Peace Regional Water Supply System



2024-10-23

**Contract 1 - River Intake and
Raw Water Transfer Station
5201-005-01**

Key Updates

- Snow runoff management onsite
- Wet well filled with earth and secant pile grinding started
- Site work on the Contract 2 pig launch chambers continues



2026-04-17



2026-04-24



CENTRAL PEACE FIRE & RESCUE COMMISSION

Board Meeting

Centennial Hall – Ross Room

Thursday May 7th, 2026

Time: 4:00 pm

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES
4. DELAGATION –ATB Financial – Melissa Murdock
5. MANAGER/FIRE CHIEF REPORT

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

- 6.1 Alberta Council - Grant
- 6.2 Formal Funding Letters
- 6.3

7. NEW BUSINESS

- 7.1
- 7.2

8. ACTION LIST

- 8.1 News article monthly - Ongoing

9. INFORMATION ITEMS

- 9.1 Budget to date
- 9.2
- 9.3
- 9.4

10. ROUNTABLE

11.ADJOURNMENT

- 11.1 Next meeting.



CENTRAL PEACE FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSION

April 9th, 2026

4:00 p.m. Ross Room - Centennial Hall

PRESENT	Brian Kroes Brice Daly Roxann Dreger Brian Markovich Tammy Yaremko Bill Jackson Dean Wark Steve Jack Bernard Schoorlemmer Shirley Hayden	Manager / Fire Chief CPFR Manager /Protective Services - Saddle Hills County Director – Village of Rycroft Director – Village of Rycroft Chair/Director – Town of Spirit River Director – Town of Spirit River Director – M.D. of Spirit River #133 CAO – Town of Spirit River Vice-Chair/Director – M.D. of Spirit River #133 CAO – M.D. of Spirit River #133 (Rec. Secretary)
REGRETS	Kevin Keller	CAO – Village of Rycroft

1. CALL TO ORDER Chair/Director Yaremko called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION 14-09-04-26 MOVED by Director Jackson to adopt the agenda with addition of item 7.3. CARRIED

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOTION 15-09-04-26 MOVED by Director Wark to accept the February 5th, 2026 Minutes as presented. CARRIED

4. DELEGATION – Desmond McGrath, Executive Vice President of Engineering, Bearisto and Associates.

Desmond McGrath of Bearisto & Associates Engineering Ltd. Entered the meeting at 4:08 p.m. Mr. McGrath provided a status report on the new fire hall facility, noting that previous feedback has been integrated into the updated floor plan. A key technical highlight includes the installation of rough-ins for future in-floor heating during the foundation phase, providing the Commission flexibility to finish the system in the future. To keep the project moving, the Commission scheduled a follow-up meeting for April 24, 2026, at 4:00 p.m. to finalize the drawings, review the strategic timeline, and establish the next steps for the formal tendering and bidding process.

Mr. McGrath left the meeting at 4:42 PM

5. MANAGER/FIRE CHIEF REPORT

MOTION 16-09-04-26 MOVED by Director Markovich to accept Fire Chief Kroes report as presented. CARRIED

**CENTRAL PEACE FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSION**

April 9th, 2026

4:00 p.m. Ross Room - Centennial Hall

To ensure comprehensive engagement from all members, Chair Yaremko has proposed the addition of: Round Table as a standing item (under Section 10) to the Central Peace Fire and Rescue Commission agenda. This addition is intended to provide a dedicated forum for collaborative discussion and updates during all future meetings.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**6.1 Letter from the Rycroft Agricultural Society**

The CPFRC discussed a letter from the Rycroft Agricultural Society and recommended that Administration request a disclosure of the total funds raised during the Society's firehall fundraiser.

MOTION 17-09-04-26 **MOVED** by Director Dreger that the letter from the Rycroft Agricultural Society be accepted for information.

CARRIED**6.2 POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE**

MOTION 18-09-04-26 **MOVED** by Director Markovich that the Central Peace Fire and Rescue Commission policy review board be dissolved, further that future policy reviews be conducted by the Central Peace Fire and Rescue Commission Board as a whole.

CARRIED

MOTION 19-09-04-26 **MOVED** by Chair Yaremko that the Commission direct Administration to research options for outsourcing policy development for the central Peace Fire and Rescue Commission.

CARRIED**6.3 CENTRAL PEACE FIRE AND RESCUE - BYLAW NO. 02-2026 REVISION
APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS AND DESIGNATION OF THE CHAIR.**

Bylaw No.02-2026 received first, second and third reading at the February 5th, 2026, commission meeting. Manager/Chief Kroes noticed an error in this Bylaw; 02-2026 was directed to bring forward the corrected bylaw and brought forward for final reading. Chair Yaremko then called for a vote, for third and final reading.

MOTION 20-09-04-26 **MOVED** by Director Wark Bylaw 02-2026 be given third and final reading and be passed as amended.

CARRIED

**CENTRAL PEACE FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSION**

April 9th, 2026

4:00 p.m. Ross Room - Centennial Hall

7. NEW BUSINESS**7.1 INFORMATION FROM ALBERTA COUNSEL RE: FIREHALL GRANT APPLICATIONS**

MOTION 21-09-04-26 **MOVED** by Director Dreger that the Commission direct Fire Chief Kroes to retain Alberta Counsel to provide grant writing services regarding the Community Facility Enhancement Program (CFEP) including the full application for 2026 to a maximum cost of \$1500.00.

CARRIED**7.2 PLAQUE (RYCROFT AG SOCIETY)**

The board discussed the opportunity to present at the next Rycroft Ag Society board meeting, a commemorative plaque on behalf of the Commission to the Rycroft Agricultural Society in recognition of funds the society has raised for the Central Peace Fire and Rescue future Fire Hall Rycroft Ag Society board meeting taking place on April 20th at 7:00 p.m.

MOTION 22-09-04-26 **MOVED** by Director Jackson that the board direct Administration to draft and send formal funding request letters to our Regional municipal partners, specifically the G3 partner municipalities: The Town of Spirit River, The Municipal District of Spirit River No.133 and the Village of Rycroft regarding the future Central Peace Fire and Rescue Fire Hall build; further, that the letter request a contribution to support the capital costs of the project to align with the Saddle Hills County allocation which specifically earmark funds to support the Central Peace Fire Rescue Commission Spirit River Fire Hall.

CARRIED**7.3 Upcoming Presentations: Empowering Minds – Presenter; Ian Hill, CEO
June 16th (Community Leaders Breakfast) and 17th, at the Rycroft Agricultural Society**

Ian Hill is a Canadian social innovator, humanitarian, and motivational speaker known for his work in community development and mental health advocacy.

Mr. Hill's initiative, Empowering Minds (often run in partnership with the Alberta Association of Agricultural Societies), focuses on rural mental health. It aims to equip residents as First Identifiers who can recognize signs of distress and intervene early to prevent crises.

Director Wark will forward further Information regarding the session to Commission Board members.

**CENTRAL PEACE FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSION**

April 9th, 2026

4:00 p.m. Ross Room - Centennial Hall

8. ACTION LIST

- 8.1 **NEWS ARTICLE MONTHLY
REVIEWED- ACCEPTED AS INFORMATION**

9. INFORMATION ITEMS

- 9.1 **Budget to Date**

MOTION 23-09-04-26 **MOVED** by Director Markovich that the 2026 Central Peace Fire and Rescue Commission budget be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

- 9.2 **Canadian Prairies Prescribed Fire Exchange**

Fire Chief Kroes informed the Commission that details regarding the Canadian Prairies Prescribed Fire Exchange scheduled for Tuesday, April 28, will be forwarded to the Agricultural Fieldman for the MD of Spirit River No. 133, as well as to Brice Daly at Saddle Hills County and Birch Hills County. These representatives will coordinate the posting of this information to their respective social media platforms.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Director/Chair Yaremko adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

Upcoming Meeting Date: April 24th at 4:00 p.m. (to discuss Future Firehall plan)

Next Regular Meeting: May 7th at 4:00 p.m



5/7/2026

Central Peace Fire & Rescue Commission

Manager/Fire Chief's Report

Brian Kroes

Central Peace Fire & Rescue Commission

Manager/Fire Chief's Report

Good afternoon, everyone

Quick overview of our call volume from our last meeting to the present. We have had 5 MFR responses, 2 Motor Vehicles Collisions, 3 Fires, and 45 alarm calls. Since January 1st we have responded to 70 incident calls.

Big debrief on the motor vehicle fatality was held on May 4th for all members. RCMP, EMS and Victim services attended as well. Lots of good discussion amongst all who attended.

Training is ongoing every week, coming up sessions include Certified traffic control, hydrant operations, rural water supply operations and portable pumps. A joint training exercise with Saddle Hills Woking department took place April 18th with 30 members regionally taking part.

Meetings attended continue with the Alberta Fire Chiefs Association, the Provincial Fire Liaison Committee, and the Peace Regional Fire Chiefs Association.

Final review of the fire hall building plans will be completed in the timeline the Board set at the last meeting, which will be this Friday. Then out to tender as anticipated.

Summary.

On going training, with hopes to do some live fire training in the coming weeks.

Brian Kroes, Manager/Fire Chief
Central Peace Fire & Rescue Commission

Central Peace Fire & Rescue Commission
P.O. Box 249,
Spirit river, AB T0H 3G0
Tel (780) 864-2841
bkroes@cpfrc.ca



April 15, 2026

Attention:

Mayor and Council; Town of Spirit River
Reeve and Council; MD of Spirit River No. 133
Mayor and Council; Village of Rycroft

At the recent meeting of the Central Peace Fire and Rescue Commission, the Board of Directors directed Administration to formally engage our G3 municipal partners regarding the capital funding required for a new regional fire hall.

As the Central Peace Region continues to grow, a modern, centrally located fire and rescue facility is essential to ensure effective emergency response and protection of regional residents and assets. This project reflects our shared commitment to public safety.

To support this initiative, the Commission respectfully requests a capital contribution from each municipality to make up for the expected deficit of \$1,500,000. Based on the CPFRC funding model, we request contributions of:

MD Spirit is 40% (\$600,000)

Town of Spirit is 37% (\$550,000)

Rycroft is 23% (\$345,000)

This joint investment will enhance regional safety, distribute financial responsibility, and strengthen eligibility for external funding programs such as the Community Facility Enhancement Program (CFEP).

We would be pleased to provide further details on the project. To support next steps in planning and grant applications, we respectfully request a letter of intent or Council decision by April 24, 2026, which is the next CPFRC scheduled meeting.

Regards,

Brian Kroes
Manager/ Fire Chief
Central Peace Fire and Rescue Commission



Village of Rycroft

Box 360
Rycroft Alberta
T0H 3A0

Telephone: 780 765 3652
Fax: 780 765 2002
Website: www.rycroft.ca

Attention:

April 23, 2026

Commission Members and Fire Chief
Central Peace Fire & Rescue Commission
P.O. Box 249
Spirit River, Alberta, T0H 3G0

The Village of Rycroft, an active member of the Central Peace Fire & Rescue Commission reviewed the letter provided by the Commission, dated April 15 2026. The letter outlined the request for partner municipalities to make a capital contributions to accommodate the expected deficit of \$1.5 million for the development of the new Spirit River based Fire Hall.

After review of the 2026 budget the Village of Rycroft must advise that it is not able to provide the requested payment of \$345,000 in the current calendar year. This one request would result in the village having a deficit for 2026.

The Village of Rycroft is dedicated to remaining an active member within the Commission but recommends the Commission consider utilizing the current Rycroft fire hall to meet the commission's response needs along Highway 2 and within the Village of Rycroft.

Further details can be discussed at an upcoming Commission meeting.

Regards

James Verquin
Mayor Village of Rycroft



The Municipal District of Spirit River No.133
Box 389, 4202-50th Street, Spirit River, Alberta T0H 3G0
E-mail: mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca
Telephone (780) 864-3500

April 28, 2026

Subject: Response Regarding Fire Hall Development and Strategic Planning

Dear Commission Members and Fire Chief Kroes,

Thank you for your recent correspondence regarding the proposed development of the new fire hall. We appreciate the clarity provided on the current project status and regarding the operational needs of the region.

At the last regular meeting of Council on April 22nd, 2026, Council identified as a key priority our interest in evaluating the most fiscally responsible path for funding this infrastructure. Specifically, we would like to explore the possibilities for implementing a debenture option. We believe a comparative analysis will allow us to determine the most favourable interest rate, assess the long-term impact on borrowing capacities, and identify the most efficient repayment structure relative to our projected budgets.

In the coming weeks, as these cost estimates are available and Council has the opportunity to fully examine the financial and structural possibilities, we will reach out to discuss the preliminary figures.

Sincerely,

Tony Van Rootselaar, Reeve

The Municipal District of Spirit River No.133

TV/sh

Column1	Column2	Budget 2024	Actuals 2024	Difference9	Budget 2025	Actuals 2025	Difference9	Budget 2026	Actuals 2026	Difference9	Variance
5020	Payroll	121,899.18	121,899.18	-	124,946.66	124,196.40	750.26	124,337.16	38,777.04	85,560.12	31%
5030	CPP	3,500.00	3,867.50	- 367.50	3,900.00	4,034.10	- 134.10	4,100.00	2,243.13	1,856.87	55%
5030	CPP2					396.00		500.00	-	500.00	0%
5040	EI	1,300.00	1,049.12	250.88	1,100.00	1,077.98	22.02	1,100.00	626.48	473.52	57%
5050	Benefits	10,000.00	10,810.39	- 810.39	10,100.00	9,729.30	370.70	10,100.00	4,381.39	5,718.61	43%
5070	LAPP	14,000.00	10,805.55	3,194.45	12,000.00	10,945.53	1,054.47	12,000.00	2,939.12	9,060.88	24%
5120	Firefighter Honorarium	50,000.00	50,000.04	- 0.04	50,000.00	50,000.04	- 0.04	50,000.04	-	50,000.04	0%
5140	Board Expenses										#DIV/0!
5160	Mileage and Hotels	3,000.00	1,197.97	1,802.03	5,000.00	4,215.92	784.08	4,500.00	943.34	3,556.66	21%
5165	Training Meals	1,500.00	1,124.63	375.37	1,200.00	419.04	780.96	1,200.00	701.70	498.30	58%
5170	Travel Meals & Incidentals	5,000.00	48.83	4,951.17	2,000.00		2,000.00	2,000.00	246.49	1,753.51	12%
5190	Credit Card Charges	120.00		120.00	120.00		120.00	120.00		120.00	0%
5200	Conferences / Conventions	3,000.00	1,406.50	1,593.50	3,000.00	2,859.64	140.36	3,000.00	1,414.50	1,585.50	47%
5210	Medical Supplies / Equipment	500.00	492.53	7.47	500.00	70.40	429.60	500.00	293.30	206.70	59%
5220	Training Expense	14,120.00	5,739.49	8,380.51	13,500.00	11,058.96	2,441.04	14,000.00	1,422.68	12,577.32	10%
5230	Equipment Purchases	14,415.00	8,656.43	5,758.57	36,390.00	36,390.00	-	35,901.60	9,135.00	26,766.60	25%
5240	Freight	500.00	447.65	52.35	500.00	276.42	223.58	500.00	-	500.00	0%
5250	Safety Supplies	2,000.00	726.58	1,273.42	1,500.00	192.17	1,307.83	1,500.00	519.75	980.25	35%
5260	Misc. Supplies	5,000.00	4,949.68	50.32	5,000.00	3,431.90	1,568.10	3,500.00	144.36	3,355.64	4%
5270	Tool Purchases	500.00	237.25	262.75	500.00	206.14	293.86	500.00	34.63	465.37	7%
5290	Personal Protective Equipment	18,240.00	17,126.23	1,113.77	18,240.00	16,248.65	1,991.35	19,000.00	-	19,000.00	0%
5300	Advertising & Promotion	2,500.00	2,535.75	- 35.75	2,600.00	2,596.73	3.27	2,600.00		2,600.00	0%
5310	Educational Materials	1,500.00	60.00	1,440.00	1,500.00	1,626.46	- 126.46	1,800.00	921.70	878.30	51%
5320	Office Supplies & Postage	3,000.00	1,524.08	1,475.92	3,000.00	1,660.77	1,339.23	3,000.00	698.59	2,301.41	23%
5330	Uniform Expense	5,000.00	2,940.17	2,059.83	5,000.00	4,350.74	649.26	5,000.00	-	5,000.00	0%
5340	Dispatch Services	6,000.00	5,964.00	36.00	6,000.00	5,950.88	49.12	6,000.00	-	6,000.00	0%
5350	Security	1,500.00	2,341.07	- 841.07	2,500.00	2,033.62	466.38	2,500.00	100.79	2,399.21	4%
5360	Computer & Internet Expense	5,500.00	6,683.73	- 1,183.73	5,500.00	2,412.43	3,087.57	4,100.00	1,534.89	2,565.11	37%
5380	Contracted Services	10,000.00	6,593.00	3,407.00	10,000.00	9,345.88	654.12	10,000.00	4,857.65	5,142.35	49%
5385	Contracted Admin Services	12,000.00	11,092.63	907.37	12,000.00	9,721.31	2,278.69	12,000.00	-	12,000.00	0%
5400	Legal and Auditors	10,000.00	4,168.50	5,831.50	8,000.00	4,368.00	3,632.00	8,000.00	4,714.50	3,285.50	59%
5420	Insurance, Registration, License	17,000.00	19,268.15	- 2,268.15	19,500.00	13,639.09	5,860.91	19,500.00	1,527.20	17,972.80	8%
5440	WCB Premium	5,000.00	4,138.17	861.83	5,000.00	6,769.73	- 1,769.73	6,800.00	2,409.09	4,390.91	35%
5460	Membership / Subscriptions	3,000.00	1,007.28	1,992.72	1,500.00	1,604.45	- 104.45	1,700.00	673.50	1,026.50	40%
5500	Lease Fees										#DIV/0!
5520	Fuel & Oil	11,218.00	9,320.89	1,897.11	10,800.00	7,441.09	3,358.91	8,000.00	4,397.62	3,602.38	55%
5530	Vehicle Maintenance	8,000.00	8,230.96	- 230.96	8,200.00	10,536.13	- 2,336.13	13,000.00	4,061.06	8,938.94	31%
5560	Equipment Repairs & Maintenance	7,200.00	1,939.12	5,260.88	7,000.00	8,354.03	- 1,354.03	10,000.00	52.27	9,947.73	1%
5580	Building Repairs	1,000.00	725.23	274.77	1,000.00	2,593.50	- 1,593.50	5,000.00	700.00	4,300.00	14%
5600	Natural Gas	1,200.00	836.06	363.94	1,200.00	1,265.96	- 65.96	2,000.00	749.21	1,250.79	37%
5620	Power	1,200.00	1,329.61	- 129.61	1,200.00	1,670.96	- 470.96	3,000.00	676.93	2,323.07	23%
5640	Water and Sewer	1,200.00	500.50	699.50	1,200.00	469.50	730.50	1,200.00	241.36	958.64	20%
5660	Telephone / Internet	3,900.00	2,976.79	923.21	3,200.00	3,844.71	- 644.71	4,300.00	1,148.76	3,151.24	27%
5670	Bank & other Service Charges	600.00		600.00	600.00		600.00	600.00		600.00	0%
5675	CRA penalties and interest										#DIV/0!
5700	Amortization										#DIV/0!
5900	Other Expenses										#DIV/0!
		386,112.18	334,761.24	51,350.94	405,996.66	378,004.56	28,388.10	418,458.80	93,288.03	325,170.77	0%



MEETING: RM 09-26
MEETING DATE: May 13, 2026
ORIGINATED BY: Administration
TITLE: Request for Funding Support for 50 Year High School Reunion Event

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL

The Spirit River High School Reunion Committee is requesting funding support from the Municipality to assist with the delivery of the 50 year Spirit River High School reunion event occurring from July 3rd – July 5th, 2026.



Photo courtesy of Spirit River Classmates Facebook Page

This event is focused on the first ten years of graduates from the Spirit River High School, which was between 1971 through to 1981.

Please see attached letter requesting funds, with brief history and background regarding the Spirit River High School Reunion Committee event overview.

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION

That Council direct Administration accordingly.

Spirit River High School Reunion Committee,

c/o Ed Zaichkowsky

5443, Hwy 677, Saddle Hills County, T0H 3V0

Re: Grant request in support of 50 Year High School Reunion

Attn: MD Of Spirit River:

Please accept this letter as an inquiry/request toward seeking support via grant dollars that may be applicable for this upcoming community event.

Our Committee is planning a Reunion July 3 – 5th 2026, for the first 10 years (decade) of High School Classes from Spirit River Secondary School (1971 – 1981), marking a 50 year milestone.

Many of our graduates continue to live in the county and communities surrounding Spirit River and we will be hosting the majority of the event in the Woking area. It will be an opportunity to bring past school mates and graduates in the county and those who have moved to outside locations, together. Our Invitations will include upward of 500 graduates and their families to gather and spend time within our communities'.

In order to offer activities, entertainment and foods for our classmates and families at a minimized cost, we are writing to request if there is an opportunity to receive some grant funds from Saddle Hills County toward this community event.

We are respectfully seeking, a two-thousand-dollar grant/funds contribution, if this is deemed an amount that could be achievable, however, welcome any funds that Council is agreeable to contributing.

Please know we will ensure all sponsorships or contributions will be visibly recognized in appreciation during all our advertising and announcements for this 50-year Reunion event.

If there are further formalized processes required for this request, please contact myself at the phone number or email provided below. Thank you for your review and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Ed Zaichkowsky

780 933 4420

ezaichkowsky@gmail.com



MEETING:	RM 09-26
MEETING DATE:	May 13, 2026
ORIGINATED BY:	Administration
TITLE:	Request for Municipal Representation on Central Peace Health and Wellness Coalition

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL

As per the attached letter, the Central Peace Health and Wellness Coalition (CPHaWC) is a local organization requesting municipal representation on their board. CPHaWC is an organization that began as part of a cancer prevention initiative initiated by Alberta Health Services. Over time, the organization has evolved and currently aligns with Government of Alberta focus on healthy aging and aging in place, while expanding their scope of prevention to all areas of health and wellness. The local coalition was originally comprised of members of the public from the five Central Peace municipalities, as well as elected representatives from the various municipalities. In addition, the Coalition has striven to develop and maintain supportive collaborative relationships with various organizations that function in the Central Peace area, with the foundational goal of supporting the residents of the Central Peace of all ages in all areas of health.

The Coalition has accomplished much in their time, having completed asset mapping and identified community needs and priorities; addressed local concerns such as food security, supporting and working with local community gardens; infrastructural mobility and access challenges, marking crosswalks and creating child-friendly activities like hopscotch in concrete spaces where people are often waiting; advocated for the rural transit program; called attention to and supported the critical importance of early childhood development; promoted the importance of physical activity and helped to create opportunity. The Coalition, in partnership with other organizations, has piloted sun safety projects and installed sunshade structures at public facilities upon request; helped to coordinate and fund afterschool youth programs that address physical-mental-social-emotional health and well-being; provided connection among the community via the Community Connect newsletter that is issued monthly and distributed in the Town of Spirit River water bills, and electronically by email and on social media; inspired and supported the Winter Walk and Get Out and Play events; celebrated Seniors in the region during Seniors Week, as well as many other programs and projects over their tenure. Through these activities, the Coalition has partnered with numerous businesses including local grocery stores, local banks, Alberta Health Services, and other community groups including Family and Community Support Services (FCSS), local libraries, organizations such as Wellspring Cancer Support Foundation.



Participation in the Health and Wellness Coalition offers numerous benefits and opportunities for enhancement in the functioning of a municipal government, including:

- **Financial** - Access to multisectoral grants and shared operational costs;
- **Planning** - Evidence-based support for "Healthy Built Environments" and asset mapping;
- **Social** - Stronger relationships with regional boards (FCSS, Transit, etc.) and seniors;
- **Governance** - Improved transparency and better communication with a diverse public;
- **Attraction** – a wellness culture;
- **Capacity-building** – identification of local resources and supports.

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION

Administration recommends that Council designate a member of the Council of the Municipal District of Spirit River to represent the MD at the Central Peace Health and Wellness Coalition, and further attend and actively participate in the CPHaWC meetings, supporting initiatives as befits the Municipal District of Spirit River.

Or

That Council direct Administration accordingly.

SCANNED

58
RECEIVED
APR 28 2026
M.D. of Spirit River

Subject: Request for G5 Municipal Representation on the Central Peace Health and Wellness Coalition

Dear Mayor, Council, Reeve, CAO,

On behalf of CPHAWC, I am writing to invite representation from the G5 municipal government in our area to join our coalition.

Our group has been an established presence in the region for many years. While we originally began as a cancer prevention group, our mandate has since expanded. Today, we focus more broadly on supporting health and wellness initiatives and assisting groups throughout our area in promoting the wellbeing of our communities.

We would value having a representative from each of the G5 municipalities involved so that the G5 is aware of our coalition, the work we are doing, and the ways we can collaborate to strengthen services and supports across the region.

CPHAWC meets every two months at the Spirit River Library, and there is also an option to attend electronically through Microsoft Teams.

We believe municipal representation would help strengthen communication, collaboration, and awareness of the resources and partnerships available in our region. Your participation would be greatly appreciated.

If you are interested in appointing a representative or would like more information about our coalition, please contact Denise Skoworodko – Chair 780-864-0545 skowo@hotmail.com or Carla Day – Vice Chair 780-864-1801 gday1802@gmail.com.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Carla Day

Vice Chair

Central Peace Health and Wellness Coalition



COMMUNITY CONNECT



Managing Seasonal Allergies by Alberta Health Services

Allergies occur when your immune system overreacts in response to certain substances, mistaking harmless elements as harmful germs or viruses. Numerous triggers can cause this to happen such as pollens, medicine, food, dust, animal dander, and mould.

If your allergy symptoms occur seasonally, it's likely due to an allergy to specific pollens from trees, grasses, or weeds. Allergies can range from mild to severe, and some over-the-counter allergy medications may alleviate certain symptoms. Remember to carefully read and follow the instructions on medication labels.

Effectively managing your allergies is key to maintaining good health. Your healthcare provider might recommend tests to pinpoint the exact cause of your allergies. Once you identify your triggers, you can take steps to avoid them, which will help prevent allergy symptoms and potential health complications.

In some cases, immunotherapy could be beneficial. This treatment involves injections or pills containing small amounts of specific allergens. Over time, your body becomes desensitized to these allergens, resulting in reduced or prevented allergic reactions.

Symptoms and Treatment of Seasonal Allergies

Seasonal allergies can happen during any season and are very common. Some symptoms include:

- itchy, watery eyes
- runny, stuffy or itchy nose, post-nasal drip
- temporary loss of smell
- sneezing
- headache & fatigue
- dark circles under eyes
- sore throat, coughing or snoring

Home treatments are usually all you need to treat seasonal allergies, depending on your symptoms. Medicines you can try for a stuffy nose include steroid nasal sprays, which can also help with red, itchy, watery eyes.

Other treatments include:

- Clean the inside of your nose with salt water to provide relief of a stuffy nose
- Use a humidifier in the bedroom and take hot showers to help clear a stuffy nose. Follow the directions for cleaning the humidifier
- If your nose is red and raw from rubbing, put petroleum jelly on the sore area

Use over-the-counter allergy medicine to help your symptoms. Use a nasal or oral decongestant (such as Drixoral) to relieve a stuffy nose. For itchy, watery eyes; sneezing; or a runny, itchy nose, try a non-sedating over-the-counter antihistamine, like fexofenadine (such as Allegra) or loratadine (such as Claritin). To help relieve pain, try acetaminophen or ibuprofen.

Preventing Seasonal Allergies

You can reduce your exposure to pollen and other allergens that cause seasonal allergies by:

- Keeping your house and car windows closed.
- Checking the Air Quality Health Index before you go outside.
- Limiting the time you spend outside when pollen counts are high (during midday and afternoon).
- Wearing a pollen mask or dust mask if you need to mow the lawn.
- Limiting your mowing tasks if you can.
- Rinsing your eyes with cool water or saline eyedrops to remove clinging pollen after you come indoors.
- Taking a shower and changing your clothes after you work or play outside.

This newsletter is a community project supported by the Central Peace Health & Wellness Coalition and the Town of Spirit River. We welcome your ideas and submissions, please email by the 20th of the month to: cphawc2.connect@outlook.com.

Visit [Central Peace Health And Wellness Coalition \(CPHAWC\)](#) Facebook page.

If you would like to receive the newsletter via email, please send an email to cphawc1@outlook.com requesting to be added to the list.

Upcoming Events

- **KARAOKE NIGHT** @ J4 Performance on Saturday May 9 from 7 to 11 pm

Monthly Events

- **BOOK CLUB** @ Spirit River Library on Tues May 5 & June 2 at 7:30 pm

- **STITCH BY STITCH** @ Spirit River Library Wednesdays starting at 7:00 pm

- **WRITER'S GROUP** @ Spirit River Library second Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm

- **COMMUNITY CAFÉ** @ Rycroft Library Fridays @ 6:00 pm May 8 & 22

- **ANCESTRY CORNER** @ Rycroft Library - by appointment only, contact 780-765-3973

RYCROFT Mother's Day FARMERS' MARKET
MAY 9 12-4PM
 Homemade Baked Goods • Unique Crafts & Gifts
 Local Artisans • Flowers • Handmade Treasures

Office - 587-771-3567

Cell - 780-864-5698

Central Peace FCSS News

fcss@townofspiritrivier.ca

4201 50th Street

Free Tax Filing For Seniors by appointment only

COMING TO ANOTHER END OF TAX SEASON

Program Eligibility: *Simple tax situation *No business/farm/rental property income or expenses, or capital gains/losses *Income less than \$35,000/yr single or \$45,000/yr for couples

Meals on Wheels - hot meals delivered to your door; Delivered Monday, Wednesdays and Fridays and is intended for persons that are unable to obtain or prepare their own meals. Call or email us for more information.

Home Support - for a senior over the age of 55 years, any person with a disability, new mothers (short-term basis only), any person recovering from a surgery or operation (short-term basis only), any person dealing with death of an immediate family member (short-term basis only)

Upcoming Events :

FCSS Board Meeting - May 12, 2026, at 6:30 at the Peace Wapiti Sub Office.

MAY MOVIE EVENTS "CELEBRATING MOTHERS"
 Friday May 8 7:00 pm - Ross Room Keeping Mum (R)
 Tuesday 1 3:50 pm - Ross Room Mars Needs Moms (PG)
 Popcorn & Drink \$2.00
 Children 8 & under need an adult/caregiver 13 years or older with them.

Rycroft Library is hosting a screening party for the docuseries **BALANCE A Perimenopause Journey**
 Episode 1: May 1st at 6pm
 Episode 2: May 15th at 6pm
 Episode 3: May 29th at 6pm
 Episode 4: May 31st at 6pm
 Please join us for this FREE screening. This may be a sensitive topic for some. We ask for attendees to be understanding and mindful of this when attending the screening.

We Are Hiring Summer Job
 MUST be available for June, July and August
CAMP SUPERVISOR
 Lead Camp Leaders Coordinate Team with Supervise Campers & Parents Safety at all times Plan & Organize games & activities Prepare campsite as needed Monitor discipline and tracking Take direction from FCSS Coordinator and/or Recreational Coordinator Must be able to follow standard first aid and work safely before each site
CAMP LEADER
 Ability to engage with children 8-11 by using crafts and activities playing and engaging with them. Ensure Safety of Campers Take direction from Supervisor, FCSS Coordinator and Recreational Coordinator Must be able to apply standard first aid and work safely before each site
 Submit Your Resume in person at our NEW Location: 4201 50th Street Spirit River or email FCSS Coordinator Shelley @ fcss@townofspiritrivier.ca

Mother's Day Brunch MAY 10TH, 2026
 WOKING COMMUNITY HALL 9:30 AM TO 1:00 PM
 MENU: Adults \$12.95, Children 10 & under \$5.50
 FREE FOR ALL TO ATTEND - SPONSORED BY LOGAN ENERGY

PLEASE JOIN US FOR **Mother's Day BRUNCH**
 GORDONDALE HALL MAY 10, 2026 11:00AM
 Door Prizes to be won! Brunch will be prepared by the moms in the community
 FREE FOR ALL TO ATTEND - SPONSORED BY LOGAN ENERGY

27th Annual Art Show and Sale
 May 3rd 10am - 5pm Ste. Marie Catholic School
 Featuring the works of our local artists
 For more info, email: librarian@spiritrivierlibrary.ab.ca

Rycroft Merry Pioneers
 Rycroft Community Hall Monday to Thursday - 1:00 to 4:00 pm
****CLOSED - MONDAY MAY 18****
 Chair Yoga - 2:00 pm Monday & Wednesdays May 4, 6, 11, 13, 20, 25, 27
 Mahjong - 1:00 pm on Wednesdays May 6, 13, 20, 27
 May 11 - Foot Care by Echo 1:00 to 4:00 pm \$30
 May 12 - Games Day 1:00 pm
 May 21 - Seniors Bingo 1:30 pm
 May 26 - Potluck Supper & Entertainment 5:00 pm

MOTHER'S DAY Tea Party
 FRI 8 MAY 4-5 PM
 Bring mom down for a relaxing cup of tea. We will have a storytime and make a craft for the wonderful moms in our life.
 4201 50th Street Box 248 Rycroft, AB T0H 2A0 Phone: (780) 765-3973

CELEBRATING SENIOR'S WEEK
 June 1 from 10 am to 4 pm Woking Multiplex
 Open to all seniors in the G5 area in assisted living as well as residents that remain in their own homes!
 Sponsored by Central Peace Health & Wellness Coalition



MEETING:	RM 09-26
MEETING DATE:	May 13, 2026
ORIGINATED BY:	Administration
TITLE:	Wheatland County ASB Tour Invitation

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL

Per the attached letter from Wheatland County Agricultural Services Board, Wheatland County is hosting the ASB Summer Tour themed "**Where Innovation Meets Tradition**" in Wheatland County from July 14th to 16th, 2026, and is extending an invitation to Alberta rural municipalities to join them for this three-day event.

Attending the Provincial Agricultural Service Board (ASB) Summer Tour offers significant strategic and educational value for municipal administrators and council members of the Municipal District of Spirit River.

Key Benefits of Participation:

- **Peer Networking & Collaboration:**
The tour is the primary venue for connecting with ASB members from across Alberta’s 69 boards. It facilitates the exchange of ideas on regional challenges—such as weed management on oil and gas sites or regional transit sustainability—that mirror your current oversight in the Central Peace region.
- **Immersive Hands-on Learning:**
Unlike traditional conferences, the summer tour focuses on **in-field demonstrations**. This includes viewing advancements in mowing technology, innovative agri-business models, and sustainable farming practices that can inform your policy development and public works asset mapping.
- **Direct Access to Industry Experts:**
The event provides a platform to discuss legislative updates and resource management with experts and provincial ministry representatives. This is particularly relevant as you navigate municipal transitions and the implementation of new technologies for council chambers.
- **Benchmarking Municipal Services:**
By observing how another municipality manages its agricultural programs and public assets, you can identify efficiencies or new program ideas—such as the shelterbelt projects or coyote control pilots seen in other counties—to adapt for your local district.
- **Strategic Vision Alignment:**
Participation helps align local municipal goals with the broader provincial vision for agriculture, fostering a shared understanding of how to maintain market access and protect Alberta’s 50 million farmed acres.



Quick Event Details

Dates	July 14th, 15th, and 16th, 2026
Location	Wheatland County (Strathmore and surrounding areas)
Registration Deadline	May 15, 2026
Primary Focus	Innovation in agriculture, producer showcases, and sustainable farming

[RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION](#)

That Council direct Administration accordingly.



Office of the Reeve

Invitation to the 2026 Agricultural Service Board Summer Tour **Wheatland County | July 14–16**

On behalf of Wheatland County Council, we are pleased to extend an invitation to Alberta rural municipal councils, including municipal districts and counties, and to the Special Areas Board, including members of their Agricultural Service Boards, to attend the ASB Summer Tour in Wheatland County from July 14 to 16, 2026.

Wheatland County is honoured to host the revival of the ASB Summer Tour and looks forward to welcoming colleagues from across the province for two full days of guided tours. The event will highlight agricultural innovation, environmental stewardship, and the diversity of producers and agri-businesses that contribute to the strength of our region.

The tour itinerary will feature visits to eight distinct sites throughout Wheatland County, including:

- Strathmore Seed Plant
- a new on-farm water storage project by the Western Irrigation District
- the Archibald Biodiversity Centre
- Target Airspray
- Origin Malting and Brewing
- a solar sheep grazing operation
- the Rural Routes Agriculture Academy
- a heritage pork farm-to-fork operation

To commence the tour, participants may choose to attend one of the following optional opening events:

- a golf tournament at Speargrass Golf Course, or
- a guided tour of Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park at Siksika Nation

Wheatland County takes great pride in its agricultural community, including its farmers, ranchers, and agri-business partners, and welcomes the opportunity to showcase their work and achievements with peers from across Alberta.

Additional tour details and registration information are available at: www.wheatlandcounty.ca/asbtour

Please note that tour capacity and local accommodations are limited. Early registration is strongly encouraged, and the registration deadline is May 15, 2026.



Wheatland County Council looks forward to welcoming you this July and hopes you will join us for this valuable opportunity to connect, share knowledge, and celebrate agriculture in our region.

Sincerely,



Scott Klassen – Reeve
Wheatland County



RFD: Wheatland County ASB Tour Invitation Additional Information



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2026 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Summer Tour

📍 Wheatland County 📅 July 14-16th, 2026

Wheatland County is proud to host the 2026 Provincial Agricultural Service Board Summer Tour, celebrating the theme "Where Innovation Meets Tradition."

This three-day event welcomes Agricultural Service Board members from across Alberta to experience the heart of our rural community; where forward-thinking practices, deep-rooted agricultural heritage, and local ingenuity come together. Through immersive site visits, producer showcases, and hands-on learning, participants will explore sustainable farming, innovative agri-business, and the real-world challenges and opportunities shaping today's agricultural landscape.

The tour not only highlights the strength and diversity of Wheatland County's agricultural sector, but also fosters collaboration, connection, and shared vision for the future of agriculture in Alberta.



Registration

We are excited to welcome you to an action-packed 2026 ASB Summer Tour! Registration is now open.

Date: July 14-16, 2026

Location: Wheatland County

Delegate Registration Fee: \$775.00

Registration Deadline: May 15, 2026

[Register Now](#)

[Accommodations & Camping](#)



[Contact Us](#)



[Entertainment](#)



[Schedule of Events](#)





ASB Tour

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ASB Summer Tour Schedule

Tour Summary

EH Farms

EH Farms is a family-owned farm that specializes in raising Red Mangalitsa pigs, which are known for their curly, sheep-like wool coats and high-fat content (often referred to as the "Kobe beef" of pork). On this farm the focus is on sustainable, holistic production with "nose-to-tail" consumption. The family also shares their story, educating consumers about life on the farm and the vital role agriculture plays in their lives.

Solar Sheep

Solar Sheep Inc. is an Alberta-based agrivoltaics company that integrates managed sheep grazing with solar energy sites, offering "Sheep as a Service" along with consulting, vegetation management, and land-stewardship solutions designed to improve soil health, biodiversity, and long-term sustainability.

Origin Malting

Origin Malting & Brewing Co.'s brewing operation is built on a true "field-to-pint" model, where the Hilton family grows their own premium barley, malts it in-house for complete quality control, and crafts beer using ingredients sourced directly from their farm. This vertically integrated process allows them to maintain exceptional consistency, traceability, and flavour while showcasing the agricultural heritage behind every pint they produce.

Archibald Biodiversity Centre

The Archibald Biodiversity Centre, a one-of-a-kind facility operated by the Wilder Institute (Calgary Zoo), is a conservation and research facility dedicated to protecting threatened wildlife through science-based breeding programs, habitat restoration, and species recovery initiatives. The centre houses and breeds at-risk species, preparing them for release back into the wild to support long-term population recovery.

Rural Routes Agricultural Academy

Rural Route Agriculture Academy is a K-12 charter school in Wheatland County that delivers hands-on, agriculture-focused education through project-based, nature-based learning, helping students build real-world skills, environmental stewardship, and strong community values.

Strathmore Seed Cleaning Plant

The Strathmore Seed Cleaning Plant is a modern facility and unique in that the operation provides professional seed cleaning, commercial grain separation, C-can loading, bagging, and pedigreed seed to local producers and grain exporters.

Target Airspray

Target Airspray is a family-run aerial application company that operates with a focus on efficient coverage, strong customer relationships, and the same commitment to quality crop protection that has sustained it for more than five decades. Target Air uses three turbine powered Thrusch 510 aircraft each equipped with the most modern GPS guidance systems to provide the highest quality of pest control applications in the most efficient and timely manner possible.

Western Irrigation District

The Western Irrigation District (WID) is a long-standing Alberta water-management organization that has, for more than 75 years, delivered raw water to irrigators and communities east of Calgary. Learn more about the future of on-farm water storage, irrigation technology, and water conservation.

July 14, 2026 – Registration & Welcome Events

Time	Activity	Location
12:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Tour Registration	Strathmore
9:00 AM – 4:00 PM	Golf Tournament	TBA
12:00 PM – 4:00 PM	Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park	Blackfoot Crossing Historical Park, Siksika Nation
5:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Wine and Cheese Welcome Reception	Strathmore

July 15, 2026 – Day 1 Tour

Time	Activity	Location
7:00 AM – 8:30 AM	Registration	Strathmore
6:30 AM – 8:00 AM	Breakfast	Strathmore
8:30 AM	Bus Departs	Strathmore
—	Tour Stop 1	TBA
—	Tour Stop 2	TBA
12:00 PM	Lunch	TBA
1:00 PM	Bus Departs	TBA
—	Tour Stop 3	TBA
—	Tour Stop 4	TBA
—	Tour Stop 5	TBA
4:00 PM	Bus Returns	Strathmore
5:00 PM – 7:00 PM	Supper	Strathmore
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM	Entertainment	Strathmore

RFD: Wheatland County ASB Tour Invitation Additional Information

July 16, 2026 – Day 2 Tour

Time	Activity	Location
6:30 AM – 8:00 AM	Breakfast	Strathmore
8:30 AM	Bus Departs	Strathmore
—	Tour Stop 6	TBA
—	Tour Stop 7	TBA
12:00 PM	Lunch	TBA
1:00 PM	Bus Departs	TBA
—	Tour Stop 8	TBA
—	Tour Stop 9	TBA
—	Tour Stop 10	TBA
4:00 PM	Bus Returns	Strathmore
5:30 PM – 10:00 PM	Banquet and Entertainment	Strathmore



MEETING:	RM 09-26
MEETING DATE:	May 13, 2026
ORIGINATED BY:	CAO
TITLE:	Request for Approval to Attend 2026 Alberta Municipal Administrators Conference

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL

Each year the Alberta Rural Municipal Administrators Association (ARMAA) hosts a conference offering programming to enhance the performance of the lead administration staff overseeing the function of rural municipalities.

The Alberta Rural Municipal Administrators' Association (ARMAA) is a professional organization for senior administrative staff (CAOs, managers) from rural municipalities, focusing on professional development, networking, and advocating for administrative interests. Founded in 1921, it works with the Rural Municipalities of Alberta (RMA) to influence provincial policy.

The MD encourages growth and consistent learning in all employees, and this opportunity is recognized as one that will support the growth and learning and skills specific to the CAO role.

Attending the **Alberta Rural Municipal Administrators' Association (ARMAA)** annual conference offers administrative leadership—particularly CAOs and senior managers—a targeted environment to address the unique pressures of rural governance. Unlike broader municipal conventions, ARMAA focuses specifically on the **administrative lens** of running a rural district.

The primary benefits include:

1. Peer-to-Peer Problem Solving

Rural municipalities often face niche challenges, such as managing sprawling infrastructure with limited tax bases or handling specific provincial legislative changes.

- **Information Exchange:** The conference provides a forum to share "lessons learned" from other MDs and Counties.
- **Standardization:** It helps administrators standardize methods for interpreting provincial statutes and bylaws, ensuring your district isn't "reinventing the wheel."

2. Direct Access to Provincial Leadership

One of the standout features of ARMAA is its facilitation of high-level dialogue.

- **Bureaucratic Networking:** The association sponsors sessions with **Deputy Ministers** and senior bureaucrats. This allows administration to hear directly about upcoming provincial initiatives before they are officially rolled out.
- **Advocacy:** It provides a collective voice to influence provincial programs and services that affect rural operations.



3. Professional Development & Efficiency

The conference is designed to promote a higher standard of administrative efficiency through tailored educational sessions.

- **Skill Building:** Workshops often cover critical areas like asset management, human resources, and safety program updates—areas that directly impact the daily operations of a municipal office.
- **Best Practices:** Sessions frequently feature case studies on digital transformation and governance frameworks, helping administration identify tools to streamline reporting and council-admin relations.

4. Relationship Building (The "Fraternal" Aspect)

ARMAA describes itself as a fraternal organization, emphasizing the importance of a support network for senior staff who often work in isolated professional environments.

- **Zone Collaboration:** It strengthens ties within regional zones, which is vital for shared services (like regional transit programs or family and community support services).

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION

Administration requests that Council approve the attendance by CAO Hayden to the 2026 Alberta Rural Municipal Administrators Association (ARMAA), with registration, travel and accommodation expenses allocated in the budget under 'Training' and 'Subsistence'.

Or

That Council direct Administration accordingly.



ARMAA invites its members and guests to the ARMAA 2026 Conference & AGM in Nisku.

“I Will Survive”

Join us for presentations on Municipal Collaboration, Economic Strategies, Emergency Preparedness, & going from Surviving to Thriving.

Details:

- Golf Tournament: Tuesday, August 25, 2026, at 7:00 am (8 am Shotgun start)
- Conference: Wednesday, August 26, 2026 - Thurs, August 27, 2026

Golf Tournament:

The Golf Tournament will be held on Tuesday, August 25th. We encourage everyone to register as soon as possible. Breakfast will be served beginning at 7:00 am with a shotgun start at 8:00 am.

Golf Course: Coloniale Golf Club,

Conference:

The conference is scheduled to take place over 2 days, beginning on Wednesday, the 26th. Our annual banquet will be held on the evening of Wednesday, August 26th, at The Coast Hotel Nisku. We are asking members to submit conference registration forms as soon as possible, and by July 30, 2026.

Hotel: The Coast Hotel Nisku [1101 4 St. Nisku, AB T9E 7N1](#)

Accommodations:

A block of rooms has been set aside at the Coast Hotel Nisku. Book early via telephone by clicking here: [Book your group rate for ARMAA Conference](#)

If you have any questions or comments, please contact me, your zone director, or email us at executive.director@armaa.info.

We hope to see everyone in Nisku.

Sincerely,
 Laura Swain
 President, ARMAA

ARMAA

2026 CONFERENCE & GOLF TOURNAMENT

REGISTRATION FORM



Location: Coast Hotel Nisku

Date: Aug 26th - Aug 27th, 2026

Name: _____ Email: _____ Tel: _____

Municipality/Organization: _____

Conference Fees:

- Conference (Member) - \$400.00 Banquet Attendance – Y / N
- Conference (Non-Member) - \$450.00
- Spouse (Banquet Only) - \$50.00
- Delegate - \$0.00 (must be invited)

Dietary Needs or Restrictions: _____

Golf Fees:

Tournament - 7:00 am August 25th, 2026 @ Coloniale Golf Club

- Golf Tournament and BBQ: \$125.00 _____
- Golf BBQ ONLY: \$40.00
- Spouse/Partner Golf Tournament & BBQ: \$125.00 (Name: _____)
- Spouse/Partner BBQ ONLY: \$40.00
- Rental Clubs Required (payable to the course on the day of the tournament)

Average Score on 18 Holes: _____

Contact and Payment Information:

- ❖ Please email completed forms by July 30, 2026, to: executive.director@armaa.info
- ❖ Payment Options:
 - Interac E-Transfer to executive.director@armaa.info
 - EFT Payments are available by sending EFT forms to the above email
 - Cheques can be mailed to:

ARMAA
Suite # 273, 370, 5222 - 130th Ave SE
Calgary, AB T2Z-0G4



MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133

MEETING:

RM 09-26

MEETING DATE:

May 13th, 2026

ORIGINATED BY:

Elena Valdes, CFO

TITLE:

Pamphlet Sample Approval

BACKGROUND

Administration has prepared a one-page informational pamphlet titled "Understanding Property Tax & Requisition Breakdown" to accompany the annual tax notices.

The purpose of this pamphlet is to provide residents with a clear and accessible explanation of how property taxes are calculated, including the distinction between municipal taxes and requisitions collected on behalf of other organizations.

The pamphlet places particular emphasis on the Provincially Mandated Police Funding Model (PFM), as well as other requisitions including:

- Alberta Education and local school divisions
- Seniors housing (Grande Spirit Foundation)
- Designated Industrial Property (DIP)

The content has been developed in plain language to improve transparency and ensure residents understand which portions of their tax bill are within municipal control and which are externally mandated.

Additionally, the pamphlet includes a visual breakdown of requisitions and a summary of tax components to enhance readability and public understanding.

Optional

QR code has been added with Direct access to Approved 2026 Operating and Capital Budget. This can remain in the pamphlet or be taken off if needed.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approves the Pamphlet & directs Administration to distribute the

Or

That Council Direct administration accordingly



Understanding Property Tax & Requisition Breakdown

Municipal Tax Portion

This is the part of your property taxes that is set and controlled by the Municipality and is used to fund local services such as roads, emergency services, utilities, recreation, and administration. Each year, Council reviews and approves an operating and capital budget to ensure all departments can deliver these services to the community. Once the total cost of providing services is determined, the Municipality subtracts all other sources of revenue—including grants, user fees, and transfers from reserves—and the remaining amount, known as the municipal tax levy, is what must be raised through property taxes. This levy is then distributed across all taxable properties using tax rates set for each property class. In addition to the municipal portion, property tax notices also include requisitions, which are amounts collected on behalf of other organizations such as education, seniors housing, designated industrial property, and the Provincially Mandated Police Funding Model; these are added to the tax bill but are not controlled by the Municipality and must be remitted accordingly.

Alberta Education & RCSSD (School Requisitions):

Education property taxes are requisitioned by the Province of Alberta and local school divisions, including the Roman Catholic Separate School Division (RCSSD), to fund the K-12 education system. The Municipality collects these amounts on behalf of the Province and remits them directly; Council does not control these rates or revenues.

Seniors Foundation (Grande Spirit Foundation):

The Grande Spirit Foundation requisition supports the provision of seniors housing and related services within the region. This includes lodges, affordable housing, and programs for seniors. The Municipality collects this requisition on behalf of the Foundation and forwards the funds as required.

Designated Industrial Property (DIP):

The Designated Industrial Property (DIP) requisition applies to specific industrial properties as defined by the Province. It supports provincial oversight, assessment, and administration of these specialized properties. The Municipality collects this amount but does not determine the rate or use of the funds.

Police Funding Model:

The Police Funding Model (PFM) is a funding program established by the Government of Alberta. Under this model, municipalities that receive policing services from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police are required to contribute to the cost of those services. The contribution amount is determined by the Province using a standardized funding formula. While this is a mandated requisition that the Municipality is required to collect and remit, it is not presented as a separate requisition within the municipal tax rate bylaw. Instead, it forms part of the overall municipal tax requirement, even though the Municipality has no authority over the amount.



Understanding Property Tax & Requisition Breakdown

Does the Municipality Decide This Amount? No.

The Police Funding Model contribution:

- Is calculated by the Province of Alberta
- Is based on a provincially determined formula
- Is mandatory for municipalities receiving provincial policing services
- Must be remitted to the Province

The Municipality does not have authority to reduce or eliminate this amount.

How Is the Amount Calculated?

The Province uses a funding formula that considers factors such as:

- Municipal population
- Equalized property assessment
- Community type

The formula determines each municipality's required contribution for the year.

Where Does the Money Go?

Funds collected under the Police Funding Model are remitted to the Province to help support provincial policing services provided through the RCMP in our community.

For more information about the provincial Police Funding Model, you may also visit the Government of Alberta website.

Questions?

If you have questions about your municipal tax notice, please contact:

Municipal District of Spirit River No.133
Phone:780-864-3500
Email: mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca

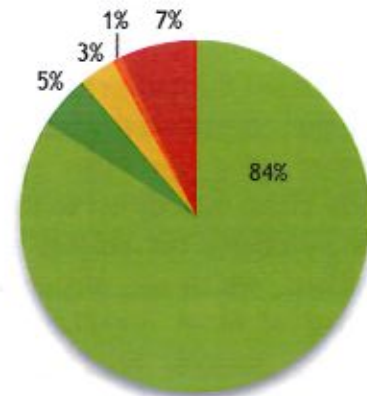
For Assessment Questions please refer to Assessor information printed in tax Notice.

Requisitions Breakdown Including PFM:

Mandatory Requisitions & amounts:

- Alberta Education: \$820,198
- Grande Prairie RCSSD: \$47,927
- Seniors Foundation: \$32,828
- DIP: \$8,795
- Police Funding Model: \$68,332

Requisitions



- Alberta Education
- Grande Prairie RCSSD
- Seniors Foundation (Grande Spirit Foundation)
- Designated Industrial Property (DIP)
- PFM

Details about our Final 2026 Operating and Capital Budget can be found in our Website:





MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT RIVER NO. 133

MEETING:
MEETING DATE:
ORIGINATED BY:
TITLE:

RM 09-26
May 13th, 2026
Monty Bremont, Assistant CAO
Alberta Traffic Safety Fund

BACKGROUND

The MD has been successfully awarded funding for Speed Indicator Signs through the Alberta Traffic Safety Fund. Recent correspondence with Alberta Transportation confirms that the MD is responsible for all associated engineering and design costs, as well as installation. As these costs were not included in the current capital budget, Administration is seeking Council direction on whether to proceed via a cost-sharing partnership or internal funding reallocation.

The locations identified for the speed indicator signs are:

1. Hwy 2 & Hwy 49 Intersection (Rycroft, all 4 sides)
2. Hwy 731 Hill (to Hwy 49)
3. East Entrance to Spirit River
4. West Entrance to Rycroft (Nardam)

Project Cost Breakdown

The following table outlines the estimated financial commitment for each location based on the 50/50 cost-sharing structure of the Alberta Traffic Safety Fund (ATSF):

Location	Total Estimated Cost	Provincial Funding (ATSF)	Municipal Share (MD)
Hwy 2 & Hwy 49 (All 4 sides)	\$67,500	\$33,750	\$33,750
Hwy 731 Hill (to Hwy 49)	\$17,500	\$8,750	\$8,750
East Entrance to Spirit River	\$17,500	\$8,750	\$8,750
West Entrance to Rycroft (Nardam)	\$17,500	\$8,750	\$8,750
TOTALS	\$120,000	\$60,000	\$60,000

Given that these locations fall within provincial Right-of-Ways (ROWs), Administration contacted Alberta Transportation to determine if the province would manage or fund the engineering and design components.

Alberta Transportation has formally responded (see attached) stating that the MD remains solely responsible for all project costs, including design, engineering, and installation, regardless of the signs being located within the province's ROWs.

These costs were not included in the 2026 Budget. Proceeding with the project will require an unbudgeted expenditure.

There is an opportunity to collaborate with the G5 to propose a shared funding model. Since these signs are located at key entrances to Rycroft and Spirit River, the safety benefits serve the broader regional population.

Should a partnership not be feasible, Administration could return to Council with a detailed cost estimate for further deliberation. Council could approve the expenditure from the MD's operating or capital reserve and direct Administration to immediately source contractors for design and installation.

Council may also decline the grant or defer the project to a future budget cycle.

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION

That Council receives the Alberta Transportation correspondence for information and directs Administration to engage with the G5 municipalities to explore shared funding opportunities for the installation of the approved ATSF speed indicator signs.

Or

That Council directs administration accordingly.

Good afternoon Monty,

Glad to see that the municipality has been approved for the grant funding for these projects.

The ATSF is actually administered by staff from the Edmonton office and they should be sending you the agreements shortly. However, should you have any questions regarding the program you can send them to tec.atsf@gov.ab.ca

Pertaining to your question of next steps, the following should be considered,

- As the projects all involve with installation within the highway ROW, a permit will be required for all the sites
- Permit applications can be submitted at <https://www.alberta.ca/roadside-planning-and-application-tracking-hub-rpath>
- Even though the work is within the highway ROW, it is a municipal project that belongs to the municipality therefore the design, engineering , installation costs is the municipality's responsibility (those cost are included as part of the grant approval as submitted)
- You will need to submit the design drawings, traffic accommodation plan ad other information as part of the permit application
- Our development staff will provide information of what will be required once things are submitted

I am available for a call to discuss if you prefer but I am away the early part of next week, back in the office late next week (May 7 or 8) and the week of May 11 I am available most of that week.

Have a good weekend.

Danny Jung, P.Eng.
Infrastructure Manager
Peace Region
Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors
Government of Alberta

Tel 780-624-6384
Cell 780-618-6559
Fax 780-624-2440
danny.jung@gov.ab.ca

511 Alberta - Alberta's Official Road Reports
Go to 511.alberta.ca and follow [@511Alberta](https://twitter.com/511Alberta)



ALBERTA

TRANSPORTATION and ECONOMIC CORRIDORS

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Innisfail-Sylvan Lake*

April 15, 2026

AR 107170

Mr. Tony Van Rootselaar
Reeve
Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133
Box 389
Spirit River, AB T0H 3G0
mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca

Dear Reeve Van Rootselaar:

I am pleased to advise you and your council the following project is approved for funding under the Alberta Traffic Safety Fund program:

- Highway 49 and Highway 2 Intersection Right-of-Way Speed Indicator Signs, maximum grant of \$33,750.

The final grant amount will be based on the actual eligible costs at the time of project completion, up to the approved maximum grant amount. Please note, as a condition of this grant, no cost increases will be considered. Transportation and Economic Corridors staff will be contacting administration shortly to make arrangements for the grant agreement.

Our government remains committed to enhancing public safety on local roads by supporting municipalities through the Alberta Traffic Safety Fund and investing in targeted upgrades which address identified safety risks across the province.

Sincerely,

Honourable Devin Dreeshen, ECA
Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors

cc: Honourable Todd Loewen, ECA, MLA for Central Peace-Notley



Alberta Traffic Safety Fund Application

Protected A (when completed)

The personal information collected through the Alberta Traffic Safety Fund Application Form is for the administration of the Alberta Traffic Safety Fund program. This collection is authorized by section 4(c) of the *Protection of Privacy Act*. For questions about the collection of personal information, contact the Alberta Traffic Safety Fund by email at tec.atsf@gov.ab.ca.

Section 1: General Information

Application Date yyyy-mm-dd	Municipality Name		
2026-01-05	Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133		
Municipality Address	City or Town	Province	Postal Code
4202 50th Street	Spirit River	AB	T0H 3G0
Contact Last Name	Contact First Name		
Bremont	Monty		
Contact Position	Phone	Email Address	
Assistant CAO	780-864-3500	Mbremont@mdspiritriver.ab.ca	
Project Name			
Highway 49 and Highway 2 Intersection (All 4 Sides of Intersection)			
Project Location (address/intersection or latitude/longitude)			
Highway 49 & Highway 2, 55.75637091656761, -118.69857023510576			

Section 2: Project Information

1. Detailed Project Description (describe scope, schedule, and plan for implementation):

Location: Intersection of Highway 49 and Highway 2, Village of Rycroft, AB. Project Goal: To improve traffic safety and reduce collision frequency by installing solar-powered Radar Speed Indicator Signs (RSIS) at all four approaches to the intersection. The intersection of Highway 49 and Highway 2 is a critical junction for industrial and oilfield logistics. The angle of the intersection, combined with a high volume of heavy-vehicle traffic (B-trains, tankers, and wide loads), has resulted in significant safety concerns and a history of collisions. By providing real-time visual feedback to drivers, particularly those operating heavy machinery, the project aims to increase compliance with speed reductions and ensure vehicles are traveling at a safe speed before reaching the stop sign at the intersection. The scope of this project includes the procurement, site preparation, and installation of four permanent speed indicator signs. Hardware: Four (4) pole-mounted, solar-powered radar speed signs with high-visibility LED displays. Placement: Signs will be installed within the Highway Right of Way (ROW) at approximately 200-300 meters from the intersection at the following approaches: Northbound (Hwy 2), Southbound (Hwy 2), Eastbound (Hwy 49), Westbound (Hwy 49). Permitting: Coordination with Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors for ROW access and roadside development permits. The municipality has already engaged with a member of TEC regarding the permitting process. Data Integration: Setup of Bluetooth or cellular data logging to track speed trends for future safety audits. Implementation: The project will follow a phased approach to ensure completion by the end of April. Phase I: Engineering & Permitting (March - April). Conduct a site survey to identify optimal line-of-sight for radar detection and solar exposure. Submit permit applications to the provincial government for working within the highway corridor. Finalize hardware specifications (ensuring signs are rated for Northern Alberta's winter climate). Phase II: Procurement & Prep (April - May). Order signage and mounting hardware. Locate underground utilities (Alberta One Call) at each of the four installation sites. Engage a local contractor for piling or base installation. Phase III: Installation & Calibration (May - June). Week 1: Install screw piles or concrete bases at the four designated locations. Week 2: Mount poles and solar arrays. Week 3: Install LED sign units and calibrate radar sensitivity to ensure heavy trucks are detected accurately. Week 4: Final testing, community notification, and project close-out.

2. If Automated Traffic Enforcement was previously implemented or proposed at the project location, provide detailed information on the Automated Traffic Enforcement strategy and date of installation and removal (provide backup documentation via email submission):

There has been no automated traffic enforcement at the proposed site, however, due to the nature of the intersection and the high collision rates over the years there have been talks about upgrading the intersection to a traffic circle, although this has never come to fruition.

3. Application for: Stream 1 - Funding for traffic calming devices or improved signage.
 Stream 2 - Funding for an engineering or design study.

4. Total Project Costs	
a. Engineering/Consulting:	\$15,000.00
b. Materials and equipment:	\$34,000.00
c. Construction contract:	\$18,000.00
d. Other (specify): Data Subscription	\$500.00
e. Total project costs:	\$67,500.00

5. Sources of Funds	
a. ATSF grant requested	\$33,750.00
b. All other sources (specify): MD Spirit River share	\$33,750.00
Are other sources of funding secured?	
c. Total sources of funds:	\$67,500.00

Estimated Start Date yyyy-mm-dd Estimated Completion Date yyyy-mm-dd
2026-04-01 2026-06-01

Section 3: Collision Frequency and Site Analysis

All collision and injury data must be obtained from Transportation and Economic Corridors as the source for official traffic records in Alberta. For the latest official non-wildlife collision and injury data please email: trafficsafetydata@gov.ab.ca.

1. Collision Data collected over a five-year period (provide backup documentation via email submission):

a. Collision frequency at the proposed site:

Latitude/Longitude:
55.75637091656761, -118.69857023510576 (Hwy 49 & Hwy 2)

Proposed Site A	Total
Number of fatal collisions	0
Number of injury collisions	21
Number of property damage only collisions	12
Grand Total	33

b. Collision frequency comparison to five similar sites:

i. Latitude/Longitude:

55.884777331307106, -118.63128968069763 (Hwy 2, Dunvegan)

Similar Site B	Total
Number of fatal collisions	0
Number of injury collisions	3
Number of property damage only collisions	3
Grand Total	6

ii. Latitude/Longitude:

55.78126544366901, -119.00860117928167 (Hwy 49, Hwy 727)

Similar Site C	Total
Number of fatal collisions	0
Number of injury collisions	0
Number of property damage only collisions	5
Grand Total	5

iii. Latitude/Longitude:

55.7812893192695, -118.8359726577059 (Hwy 49, 50 St. S.R.)

Similar Site D	Total
Number of fatal collisions	0
Number of Injury collisions	0
Number of property damage only collisions	5
Grand Total	5

iv. Latitude/Longitude:

55.7812620445747, -118.87959422131497 (Hwy 49, RR 64)

Similar Site E	Total
Number of fatal collisions	0
Number of injury collisions	1
Number of property damage only collisions	3
Grand Total	4

v. Latitude/Longitude:

55.592329961599695, -118.69864951777102 (Hwy 2, Hwy 677)

Similar Site F	Total
Number of fatal collisions	0
Number of injury collisions	1
Number of property damage only collisions	3
Grand Total	4

c. Severity of Collisions. For each site, list each collision on it's own row. Data listed below is for example purposes only.

Location	Collision Year	TEC Case Number	Collision Severity
Site X	2019	XXXXX	Injury
Site X	2020	XXXXX	Property Damage Only
Site X	2020	XXXXX	Fatal
Site X	2021	XXXXX	Property Damage Only
Site Y	2019	XXXXX	Injury
Site Y	2020	XXXXX	Fatal
Site Z	2021	XXXXX	Property Damage Only
Site A (proposed)	2019	1180353	Property Damage Only
Site A (proposed)	2022	5101375	Injury
Site A (proposed)	2022	5116348	Injury
Site A (proposed)	2022	5117599	Property Damage Only
Site A (proposed)	2022	5125559	Property Damage Only
Site A (proposed)	2022	5131978	Property Damage Only
Site A (proposed)	2022	5158122	Injury
Site A (proposed)	2023	5162559	Property Damage Only
Site B	2019	1099239	Injury
Site B	2020	5044671	Injury
Site B	2020	5006992	Property Damage Only
Site B	2021	5060366	Property Damage Only
Site B	2021	5086534	Injury
Site B	2022	5107052	Property Damage Only
Site C	2019	1073061	Property Damage Only
Site C	2019	1093730	Property Damage Only
Site C	2021	5058957	Property Damage Only
Site C	2021	5074374	Property Damage Only
Site C	2021	5080474	Property Damage Only
Site D	2020	5015781	Property Damage Only
Site D	2020	5031105	Property Damage Only
Site D	2022	5123582	Property Damage Only
Site D	2022	5134882	Property Damage Only
Site D	2023	5191417	Property Damage Only
Site E	2020	5047809	Property Damage Only
Site E	2021	5053487	Property Damage Only
Site E	2021	5053486	Property Damage Only
Site E	2022	5125558	Injury
Site F	2021	5095416	Property Damage Only
Site F	2021	5093901	Property Damage Only
Site F	2022	5130331	Injury

Section 4: Proposed Safety Measures

1. List the proposed safety measures (provide backup documentation via email submission):

The core of the project involves installing four speed indicator signs. These units provide immediate psychological feedback to drivers, which is highly effective for heavy vehicle operators who may not realize they are carrying too much momentum into the intersection. Location: One sign placed at each approach (North, South, East, and West) within the highway right-of-way. Positioning: Set approximately 200-300 meters back from the intersection to allow for safe braking distance for B-trains and tankers. Each sign will be equipped with cellular data logging capabilities to support long-term safety planning. To supplement the physical devices, the project plan includes alerting the public, local industry and residents of the new traffic calming measures.

2. Describe specific outcomes the municipality hopes to achieve after implementing the proposed safety measures:

1. Reduction in Collision Frequency and Severity: A reduction in the "Injury" collision rate, which currently accounts for over 50% of the unique incidents at this site. By forcing a reduction in approach speeds, the kinetic energy involved in potential impacts is significantly lowered, turning high-injury accidents into minor "property damage only" incidents or preventing them entirely.
2. Increased Driver Compliance with Speed Limits: A decrease in "85th percentile speeds" (the speed at or below which 85% of vehicles travel) on all four approaches. Consistent speeds among B-trains, tankers, and passenger vehicles reduce the "speed differential," which is a leading cause of rear-end and side-swipe collisions at highway junctions. The visual feedback from the radar signs prompts drivers of heavy loads to begin decelerating 200-300 meters before the intersection. This ensures that even if the light changes or a vehicle pulls out, the heavy truck has the air-brake capacity to stop safely.
3. Improved Reaction Time for Heavy Vehicles: Earlier braking engagement from B-trains and tankers.
4. Mitigation of Residents' Safety Concerns: Improved public perception of safety as measured by resident feedback and community surveys. Providing a visible, high-tech solution demonstrates that the municipality and Alberta Transportation are taking proactive steps to protect residents, which can reduce anxiety for local drivers navigating the intersection daily.
5. Data-Supported Future Infrastructure Planning: The municipality will obtain hard data (vehicle counts, peak speeding times, and average speeds) that can be used for further upgrades, such as permanent signalization or intersection re-alignment, if the radar signs identify a persistent volume-based risk.
6. Protection of Municipal and Provincial Infrastructure: Lowered annual maintenance and repair costs for intersection-related infrastructure. Controlled deceleration reduces "rutting" in the asphalt caused by heavy trucks slamming on brakes, preserving the road surface for longer cycles.

Authorization

Submitted by (Name and Position):

Monty Bremont, Assistant CAO, Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133

Monty Bremont

Digitally signed by Monty Bremont
Date: 2026.01.06 11:28:41 -0700

Signature

Submission Instructions:

Email your completed and signed application and any related backup documentation by clicking the submit button below.



ALBERTA

TRANSPORTATION and ECONOMIC CORRIDORS

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Innisfail-Sylvan Lake*

April 15, 2026

AR 107170

Mr. Tony Van Rootselaar
Reeve
Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133
Box 389
Spirit River, AB T0H 3G0
mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca

Dear Reeve Van Rootselaar:

I am pleased to advise you and your council the following project is approved for funding under the Alberta Traffic Safety Fund program:

- Highway 49 and Highway 731 Descent Speed Mitigation and Intersection Protection, maximum grant of \$8,750.

The final grant amount will be based on the actual eligible costs at the time of project completion, up to the approved maximum grant amount. Please note, as a condition of this grant, no cost increases will be considered. Transportation and Economic Corridors staff will be contacting administration shortly to make arrangements for the grant agreement.

Our government remains committed to enhancing public safety on local roads by supporting municipalities through the Alberta Traffic Safety Fund and investing in targeted upgrades which address identified safety risks across the province.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Devin Dreeshen".

Honourable Devin Dreeshen, ECA
Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors

cc: Honourable Todd Loewen, ECA, MLA for Central Peace-Notley



Alberta Traffic Safety Fund Application

Protected A (when completed)

The personal information collected through the Alberta Traffic Safety Fund Application Form is for the administration of the Alberta Traffic Safety Fund program. This collection is authorized by section 4(c) of the *Protection of Privacy Act*. For questions about the collection of personal information, contact the Alberta Traffic Safety Fund by email at tec.alsf@gov.ab.ca.

Section 1: General Information

Application Date yyyy-mm-dd	Municipality Name		
2026-01-06	Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133		
Municipality Address	City or Town	Province	Postal Code
4202 50th Street	Spirit River	AB	T0H 3G0
Contact Last Name	Contact First Name		
Bremont	Monty		
Contact Position	Phone	Email Address	
Assistant CAO	780-864-3500	mbremont@mdspiritrivier.ab.ca	
Project Name			
Highway 49 and Highway 731 Descent Speed Mitigation & Intersection Protection			
Project Location (address/intersection or latitude/longitude)			
Highway 49 & Highway 731, 55.7808991900106, -118.85365461499866			

Section 2: Project Information

1. Detailed Project Description (describe scope, schedule, and plan for implementation):

Project Objective: To reduce the approach speed of vehicles—specifically heavy industrial and oilfield loads—descending the steep slope of Highway 731 before they reach the critical junction at Highway 49.

2. If Automated Traffic Enforcement was previously implemented or proposed at the project location, provide detailed information on the Automated Traffic Enforcement strategy and date of installation and removal (provide backup documentation via email submission):

Highway 731 features a significant topographical challenge: a long, steep descent that terminates directly at a T-intersection or junction with Highway 49. Local observations indicate that the current 60 km/h posted limit is frequently exceeded. For heavy B-trains and oilfield equipment, the combination of a steep grade and high momentum creates a high-risk "runaway" scenario where vehicles may be unable to stop before entering the high-volume traffic on Highway 49. This project will implement a radar-based speed feedback system designed to provide real-time warnings to drivers, prompting early engine braking and mechanical braking well before the intersection's stop/yield point. **Project Scope:** Equipment: One (1) industrial-grade, solar-powered Radar Speed Indicator Sign (RSIS) with an extra-large 18" LED display for maximum visibility. Specialized Warning System: Inclusion of a "Slow Down" high-intensity strobe kit that activates specifically when vehicles exceed 65 km/h. Placement: The sign will be located on the northbound shoulder of Highway 731, positioned at the mid-point of the hill to catch speeders before they reach the steepest final section of the grade. Infrastructure: Installation of a heavy-duty breakaway steel post and a 100W solar array to ensure functionality during Northern Alberta winters. Data Logging: Implementation of a cellular modem to provide the municipality with "Speeds vs. Time of Day" reports to track industrial traffic patterns.

3. Application for: Stream 1 - Funding for traffic calming devices or improved signage.
 Stream 2 - Funding for an engineering or design study.

4. Total Project Costs	
a. Engineering/Consulting:	\$5,000.00
b. Materials and equipment:	\$7,000.00

4. Total Project Costs	
c. Construction contract:	\$5,000.00
d. Other (specify): Data Subscription	\$500.00
e. Total project costs:	\$17,500.00

6. Sources of Funds	
a. ATSF grant requested	\$8,750.00
b. All other sources (specify): Municipal share	\$8,750.00
Are other sources of funding secured?	
c. Total sources of funds:	\$17,500.00

Estimated Start Date yyyy-mm-dd Estimated Completion Date yyyy-mm-dd
 2026-04-01 2026-06-01

Section 3: Collision Frequency and Site Analysis

All collision and injury data must be obtained from Transportation and Economic Corridors as the source for official traffic records in Alberta. For the latest official non-wildlife collision and injury data please email: trafficsafetydata@gov.ab.ca.

1. Collision Data collected over a five-year period (provide backup documentation via email submission):

a. Collision frequency at the proposed site:

Latitude/Longitude:
 55.78124369214722, -118.85368116751124 (Hwy 49 & Hwy 731)

Proposed Site A	Total
Number of fatal collisions	0
Number of injury collisions	0
Number of property damage only collisions	4
Grand Total	4

b. Collision frequency comparison to five similar sites:

i. Latitude/Longitude:
 55.781259410261434, -119.00860117968996 (Hwy 49 & Hwy 727)

Similar Site B	Total
Number of fatal collisions	0
Number of injury collisions	0
Number of property damage only collisions	5
Grand Total	5

ii. Latitude/Longitude:
 55.78128598479261, -118.8359774649354 (Hwy 49 & 50 St. S.R)

Similar Site C	Total
Number of fatal collisions	0
Number of injury collisions	0
Number of property damage only collisions	5
Grand Total	5

iii. Latitude/Longitude:

55.884753261843976, -118.63132186720345 (Hwy 2, Dunvegan)

Similar Site D	Total
Number of fatal collisions	0
Number of injury collisions	3
Number of property damage only collisions	3
Grand Total	6

iv. Latitude/Longitude:

55.59233645125827, -118.698645949485 (Hwy 49 & Hwy 2)

Similar Site E	Total
Number of fatal collisions	0
Number of injury collisions	1
Number of property damage only collisions	3
Grand Total	4

v. Latitude/Longitude:

55.781249056799815, -118.87957622205246 (Hwy 49 & RR 64)

Similar Site F	Total
Number of fatal collisions	0
Number of injury collisions	1
Number of property damage only collisions	3
Grand Total	4

c. Severity of Collisions. For each site, list each collision on it's own row. Data listed below is for example purposes only.

Location	Collision Year	TEC Case Number	Collision Severity
Site X	2019	XXXXX	Injury
Site X	2020	XXXXX	Property Damage Only
Site X	2020	XXXXX	Fatal
Site X	2021	XXXXX	Property Damage Only
Site Y	2019	XXXXX	Injury
Site Y	2020	XXXXX	Fatal
Site Z	2021	XXXXX	Property Damage Only
Site A (Proposed)	2023	5174897	Property Damage Only
Site A (Proposed)	2023	5183504	Property Damage Only
Site B	2019	1073061	Property Damage Only
Site B	2019	1093730	Property Damage Only
Site B	2021	5058957	Property Damage Only
Site B	2021	5074374	Property Damage Only
Site B	2021	5080474	Property Damage Only
Site C	2020	5015781	Property Damage Only
Site C	2020	5031105	Property Damage Only
Site C	2022	5123582	Property Damage Only
Site C	2022	5134882	Property Damage Only
Site C	2023	5191417	Property Damage Only
Site D	2019	1099239	Injury
Site D	2020	5006992	Property Damage Only
Site D	2020	5044671	Injury
Site D	2021	5060366	Property Damage Only
Site D	2021	5086534	Injury
Site D	2022	5107052	Property Damage Only
Site E	2021	5093901	Property Damage Only
Site E	2021	5095416	Property Damage Only
Site E	2022	5130331	Injury
Site E	2023	5147065	Property Damage Only
Site F	2020	5047809	Property Damage Only
Site F	2021	5053486	Property Damage Only
Site F	2021	5053487	Property Damage Only
Site F	2022	5125558	Injury

Section 4: Proposed Safety Measures

1. List the proposed safety measures (provide backup documentation via email submission):

The primary intervention is the installation of a speed indicator sign on the northbound shoulder of Highway 731. The sign will be positioned at the "point of no return" on the hill, where heavy trucks must

begin braking to achieve a safe stop at the base.

2. Describe specific outcomes the municipality hopes to achieve after implementing the proposed safety measures:

1. Reduction in "Terminal Velocity" at the Intersection: A significant decrease in the speed of vehicles as they reach the final 50 meters of the Highway 731 hill. A target reduction of the 85th percentile speed from the currently observed over 60 km/h to within the 60-65 km/h range. Lowering the entry speed into the Highway 49 junction directly reduces the risk of "overshoot" collisions where trucks cannot stop in time for cross-traffic.
2. Increased Early Braking Compliance: Prompting heavy industrial loads (B-trains and tankers) to engage engine brakes or service brakes earlier in the descent. Data logging will track "deceleration rates" to confirm vehicles are reacting to the radar sign at the mid-point of the hill rather than slamming on brakes at the base. Prevents the asphalt rutting at the intersection stop line.
3. Measurable Decrease in Collision Frequency: A reduction in collisions at a site where there is high potential for severe collisions.
4. Evidence-Based Safety: Monthly "Speed Compliance Reports" generated by the sign's cellular data link.
5. Community Safety Assurance: Direct response to the travel concerns voiced by residents who feel unsafe pulling onto Highway 49 from the Spirit River area. Positive feedback in municipal town hall sessions or community surveys regarding the visible safety improvements. Strengthens the relationship between the municipality and the industrial sector by creating a safer shared-use environment for both residents and oilfield operators.

Authorization

Submitted by (Name and Position):

Monty Bremont, Assistant CAO, Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133

Monty Bremont

Digitally signed by Monty Bremont
Date: 2026.01.06 13:29:09 -0700

Signature

Submission Instructions:

Email your completed and signed application and any related backup documentation by clicking the submit button below.



ALBERTA

TRANSPORTATION and ECONOMIC CORRIDORS

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Innisfail-Sylvan Lake*

April 15, 2026

AR 107170

Mr. Tony Van Rootselaar
Reeve
Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133
Box 389
Spirit River, AB T0H 3G0
mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca

Dear Reeve Van Rootselaar:

I am pleased to advise you and your council the following project is approved for funding under the Alberta Traffic Safety Fund program:

- Highway 49 and East Entrance to Spirit River Speed Indicator Sign, maximum grant of \$8,750.

The final grant amount will be based on the actual eligible costs at the time of project completion, up to the approved maximum grant amount. Please note, as a condition of this grant, no cost increases will be considered. Transportation and Economic Corridors staff will be contacting administration shortly to make arrangements for the grant agreement.

Our government remains committed to enhancing public safety on local roads by supporting municipalities through the Alberta Traffic Safety Fund and investing in targeted upgrades which address identified safety risks across the province.

Sincerely,

Honourable Devin Dreeshen, ECA
Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors

cc: Honourable Todd Loewen, ECA, MLA for Central Peace-Notley



Alberta Traffic Safety Fund Application

Protected A (when completed)

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Section 1: General Information

Application Date yyyy-mm-dd	Municipality Name		
2026-01-06	Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133		
Municipality Address	City or Town	Province	Postal Code
4202 - 50th Street	Spirit River	AB	T0H 3G0
Contact Last Name	Contact First Name		
Bremont	Monty		
Contact Position	Phone	Email Address	
Assistant CAO	780-864-3500	mbremont@mdspiritriver.ab.ca	
Project Name			
Highway 49 and East Entrance to Spirit River			
Project Location (address/intersection or latitude/longitude)			
Highway 49 & 47th Street, 55.78001767600034, -118.8273892167631			

Section 2: Project Information

1. Detailed Project Description (describe scope, schedule, and plan for implementation):

The goal of this project is to install a solar-powered Radar Speed Indicator Sign (RSIS) at the eastern entrance of the Town of Spirit River on Highway 49. The initiative aims to achieve consistent compliance with the 60 km/h posted speed limit, ensuring a safe transition for industrial, commercial, and passenger vehicles as they enter the town from high-speed highway segments. Highway 49 serves as a primary logistical artery for Northwest Alberta, connecting the region to Saddle Hills County, the British Columbia border, and Dawson Creek. The east entrance of Spirit River is a high-pressure traffic zone characterized by: Heavy Industrial & Oilfield Traffic: Frequent movement of oversized loads, service rigs, and heavy-haul trucks. These vehicles require significantly longer braking distances; early speed awareness is vital to prevent rear-end collisions and "runaway" speed through the town core. High-Volume Transit: As a major route for BC-bound traffic, many motorists are on long-distance trips. The "Your Speed" feedback helps mitigate "speed adaptation" (where drivers lose the sensation of speed after long periods of highway driving). Active Transportation Safety: The 8 km corridor between Spirit River and the Village of Rycroft is frequently used by pedestrians and cyclists. Managing motorist speed is essential to reduce the wind-shear effect and collision risk for these vulnerable users. Conduct a sight-line analysis at the east entrance to ensure the sign is visible from at least 200m away, allowing heavy vehicles ample time to engine-brake. Supply and install a pole with a breakaway base to meet provincial safety standards and install a solar powered RSIS. Configure the system to log speed statistics, which will be used to inform future Peace Officer/RCMP patrolling schedules and municipal infrastructure planning.

Phase 1: Planning & Regulatory Compliance: Secure the necessary Highway Development permits and ensure the sign placement does not interfere with existing provincial signage. Consult with local industry partners and the RCMP to align speed management efforts.

Phase 2: Technical Procurement: Select a battery-solar configuration optimized for the -40°C temperatures and limited sunlight hours of the Peace Region. Program the unit with "High Speed" alerts (e.g., flashing when speeds exceed 65 km/h) to catch the attention of distracted drivers.

Phase 3: Physical Installation: Installation of the pole foundation and solar array. On-site testing using a calibrated radar device to ensure the display matches actual vehicle speeds.

2. If Automated Traffic Enforcement was previously implemented or proposed at the project location, provide detailed information on the Automated Traffic Enforcement strategy and date of installation and removal (provide backup documentation via email submission):

N/A

3. Application for: Stream 1 - Funding for traffic calming devices or improved signage.
 Stream 2 - Funding for an engineering or design study.

4. Total Project Costs	
a. Engineering/Consulting:	\$5,000.00
b. Materials and equipment:	\$7,000.00
c. Construction contract:	\$5,000.00
d. Other (specify): Data Subscription	\$500.00
e. Total project costs:	\$17,500.00

5. Sources of Funds	
a. ATSF grant requested	\$8,750.00
b. All other sources (specify): Municipal share	\$8,750.00
Are other sources of funding secured?	
c. Total sources of funds:	\$17,500.00

Estimated Start Date yyyy-mm-dd Estimated Completion Date yyyy-mm-dd
2026-04-01 2026-06-01

Section 3: Collision Frequency and Site Analysis

All collision and injury data must be obtained from Transportation and Economic Corridors as the source for official traffic records in Alberta. For the latest official non-wildlife collision and Injury data please email: trafficsafetydata@gov.ab.ca.

1. Collision Data collected over a five-year period (provide backup documentation via email submission):

a. Collision frequency at the proposed site:

Latitude/Longitude:
55.78001767600034, -118.8273892167631 (Hwy 49 & 47th St.)

Proposed Site A	Total
Number of fatal collisions	0
Number of injury collisions	0
Number of property damage only collisions	0
Grand Total	0

b. Collision frequency comparison to five similar sites:

i. Latitude/Longitude:

55.75219803274494, -118.59536840314249 (Hwy 49 & RR 45)

Similar Site B	Total
Number of fatal collisions	0
Number of injury collisions	0
Number of property damage only collisions	1
Grand Total	1

ii. Latitude/Longitude:

55.781252139691794, -119.00859336410804 (Hwy 49 & Hwy 727)

Similar Site C	Total
Number of fatal collisions	0
Number of injury collisions	0
Number of property damage only collisions	2
Grand Total	2

iii. Latitude/Longitude:

55.82490930098516, -119.9049661197285 (Hwy 49 & RR 131)

Similar Site D	Total
Number of fatal collisions	0
Number of injury collisions	1
Number of property damage only collisions	0
Grand Total	1

iv. Latitude/Longitude:

55.839854410061584, -119.54025627351777 (Hwy 49 & RR 105)

Similar Site E	Total
Number of fatal collisions	0
Number of injury collisions	1
Number of property damage only collisions	0
Grand Total	1

v. Latitude/Longitude:

55.7232149690097, -117.90663897409567 (Hwy 49 & RR 261)

Similar Site F	Total
Number of fatal collisions	0
Number of injury collisions	0
Number of property damage only collisions	1
Grand Total	1

c. Severity of Collisions. For each site, list each collision on it's own row. Data listed below is for example purposes only.

Location	Collision Year	TEC Case Number	Collision Severity
Site X	2019	XXXXX	Injury
Site X	2020	XXXXX	Property Damage Only
Site X	2020	XXXXX	Fatal
Site X	2021	XXXXX	Property Damage Only
Site Y	2019	XXXXX	Injury
Site Y	2020	XXXXX	Fatal
Site Z	2021	XXXXX	Property Damage Only
Site A	N/A	N/A	
Site B	2019	1077074	Property Damage Only
Site C	2019	1073061	Property Damage Only
Site D	2022	5149750	Injury
Site E	2019	1084584	Injury
Site F	2019	1101386	Property Damage Only

Section 4: Proposed Safety Measures

1. List the proposed safety measures (provide backup documentation via email submission):

Installation of a solar powered RSIS at the East Entrance to the Town of Spirit River. This is specifically designed to combat "speed adaptation"—the tendency for highway drivers to lose their sense of actual speed after long periods of driving. The sign will be programmed to flash or pulse when a vehicle exceeds a certain threshold (e.g., 65 km/hr), specifically targeting distracted drivers or those failing to decelerate for the 60 km/hr town limit. Positioning the sign at a minimum 200m visibility point. This is critical for the heavy industrial and oilfield traffic on Highway 49, as it provides the distance required for heavy-haul trucks to engine-brake effectively. The unit will collect anonymous data on vehicle counts and speed trends. By forcing deceleration at the town boundary, the measure reduces the "wind-shear" and turbulence caused by high-speed heavy vehicles, creating a safer environment for cyclists and pedestrians traveling the 8km corridor to Rycroft. Early warning allows for gradual deceleration, reducing the likelihood of rear-end collisions at the town's first major intersections, where industrial traffic often encounters slower-moving local passenger vehicles.

2. Describe specific outcomes the municipality hopes to achieve after implementing the proposed safety measures:

To achieve a statistically significant reduction in average vehicle speeds as they cross from the high-speed highway zone into the 60 km/h town limit. To eliminate the tendency of motorists to maintain highway speeds until they reach the town center, ensuring they are already at or below the limit upon entering the first residential/commercial blocks. Based on the 7 recorded collisions within 500 metres of the entrance, the goal is to lower this incident rate by providing drivers with earlier situational awareness. By slowing heavy industrial vehicles early, the project aims to prevent the transition of "Property Damage Only" incidents into "Injury" or "Fatal" collisions, such as those observed at other high-traffic nodes on Highway 49 (e.g., Gordondale and Bay Tree). To create a safer environment for the residents walking or cycling the 8 km corridor between Spirit River and Rycroft. Lower vehicle speeds directly reduce the lethal force in the event of a collision and mitigate the dangerous "wind-blast" effect caused by heavy trucks passing pedestrians at high speeds. Utilizing the sign's internal data-logging capabilities to provide the Town and local RCMP with accurate reports on when speeding is most prevalent. This allows for "precision enforcement"—placing patrols during documented high-risk windows rather than relying on guesswork. Establishing a clear "Safety Gateway" at the east entrance that signals to residents and visitors alike that Spirit River is a pedestrian-friendly community that prioritizes the safety of its citizens over through-traffic speed.

Authorization

Submitted by (Name and Position):

Monty Bremont, Assistant CAO, Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133

Monty Bremont

Digitally signed by Monty Bremont
Date: 2026.01.06 14:26:38 -0700

Signature

Submission Instructions:

Email your completed and signed application and any related backup documentation by clicking the submit button below.



ALBERTA

TRANSPORTATION and ECONOMIC CORRIDORS

*Office of the Minister
MLA, Innisfail-Sylvan Lake*

April 15, 2026

AR 107170

Mr. Tony Van Rootselaar
Reeve
Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133
Box 389
Spirit River, AB T0H 3G0
mdsr133@mdspiritriv.ab.ca

Dear Reeve Van Rootselaar:

I am pleased to advise you and your council the following project is approved for funding under the Alberta Traffic Safety Fund program:

- Highway 49 and West Entrance to Rycroft Speed Indicator Sign, maximum grant of \$8,750.

The final grant amount will be based on the actual eligible costs at the time of project completion, up to the approved maximum grant amount. Please note, as a condition of this grant, no cost increases will be considered. Transportation and Economic Corridors staff will be contacting administration shortly to make arrangements for the grant agreement.

Our government remains committed to enhancing public safety on local roads by supporting municipalities through the Alberta Traffic Safety Fund and investing in targeted upgrades which address identified safety risks across the province.

Sincerely,

Honourable Devin Dreeshen, ECA
Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors

cc: Honourable Todd Loewen, ECA, MLA for Central Peace-Notley



Alberta Traffic Safety Fund Application

Protected A (when completed)

The personal information collected through the Alberta Traffic Safety Fund Application Form is for the administration of the Alberta Traffic Safety Fund program. This collection is authorized by section 4(c) of the *Protection of Privacy Act*. For questions about the collection of personal information, contact the Alberta Traffic Safety Fund by email at tec.atsf@gov.ab.ca.

Section 1: General Information

Application Date yyyy-mm-dd Municipality Name
 2026-01-06 Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133

Municipality Address City or Town Province Postal Code
 4202 - 50th Street Spirit River AB T0H 3G0

Contact Last Name Contact First Name
 Bremont Monty

Contact Position Phone Email Address
 Assistant CAO 780-864-3500 mbremont@mdspiritriver.ab.ca

Project Name
 Highway 49 and West Entrance to Rycroft

Project Location (address/intersection or latitude/longitude)
 Highway 49 & RR 54, 55.759877925841494, -118.72029301108304

Section 2: Project Information

1. Detailed Project Description (describe scope, schedule, and plan for implementation):

The goal of this project is to install a solar-powered Radar Speed Indicator Sign (RSIS) at the western entrance of the Village of Rycroft on Highway 49. The initiative aims to achieve consistent compliance with the 60 km/hr posted speed limit, ensuring a safe transition for industrial, commercial, and passenger vehicles as they enter the village from high-speed highway segments. Highway 49 serves as a primary logistical artery, connecting the region to Spirit River, Saddle Hills County, and the BC border. The west entrance is a high-pressure zone characterized by heavy industrial and oilfield traffic requiring significant braking distances. The "Your Speed" feedback will mitigate "speed adaptation" for long-distance motorists. Additionally, this entrance is critical for the safety of pedestrians and cyclists utilizing the 8 km corridor between Rycroft and Spirit River. Phase 1: Secure Highway Development permits and consult with local industry and RCMP. Phase 2: Procure a battery-solar unit optimized for -40 and program "High Speed" alerts for speeds exceeding 65 km/hr. Phase 3: Install pole foundation and solar array, followed by on-site radar calibration.

2. If Automated Traffic Enforcement was previously implemented or proposed at the project location, provide detailed information on the Automated Traffic Enforcement strategy and date of installation and removal (provide backup documentation via email submission):

N/A

3. Application for: Stream 1 - Funding for traffic calming devices or improved signage.
 Stream 2 - Funding for an engineering or design study.

4. Total Project Costs	
a. Engineering/Consulting:	\$5,000.00
b. Materials and equipment:	\$7,000.00
c. Construction contract:	\$5,000.00

4. Total Project Costs	
d. Other (specify): Data Subscription	\$500.00
e. Total project costs:	\$17,500.00

5. Sources of Funds	
a. ATSF grant requested	\$8,750.00
b. All other sources (specify): Municipal share	\$8,750.00
Are other sources of funding secured?	
c. Total sources of funds:	\$17,500.00

Estimated Start Date yyyy-mm-dd Estimated Completion Date yyyy-mm-dd
2026-04-01 2026-06-01

Section 3: Collision Frequency and Site Analysis

All collision and injury data must be obtained from Transportation and Economic Corridors as the source for official traffic records in Alberta. For the latest official non-wildlife collision and injury data please email: trafficsafetydata@gov.ab.ca.

1. Collision Data collected over a five-year period (provide backup documentation via email submission):

a. Collision frequency at the proposed site:

Latitude/Longitude:

55.759877925841494, -118.72029301108304 (Hwy 49 & RR 54)

Proposed Site A	Total
Number of fatal collisions	0
Number of injury collisions	2
Number of property damage only collisions	1
Grand Total	3

b. Collision frequency comparison to five similar sites:

i. Latitude/Longitude:

55.75219803274494, -118.59536840314249 (Hwy 49 & RR 45)

Similar Site B	Total
Number of fatal collisions	0
Number of injury collisions	0
Number of property damage only collisions	1
Grand Total	1

ii. Latitude/Longitude:

55.781252139691794, -119.00859336410804 (Hwy 49 & Hwy 727)

Similar Site C	Total
Number of fatal collisions	0
Number of injury collisions	0
Number of property damage only collisions	2
Grand Total	2

iii. Latitude/Longitude:

55.82490733661625, -119.90494715218372 (Hwy 49 & RR 131)

Similar Site D	Total
Number of fatal collisions	0
Number of injury collisions	1
Number of property damage only collisions	0
Grand Total	1

iv. Latitude/Longitude:

55.839854410061584, -119.54025627351777 (Hwy 49 & RR 105)

Similar Site E	Total
Number of fatal collisions	0
Number of injury collisions	1
Number of property damage only collisions	0
Grand Total	1

v. Latitude/Longitude:

55.7232149690097, -117.90663897409567 (Hwy 49 & RR 261)

Similar Site F	Total
Number of fatal collisions	0
Number of injury collisions	0
Number of property damage only collisions	1
Grand Total	1

c. Severity of Collisions. For each site, list each collision on it's own row. Data listed below is for example purposes only.

Location	Collision Year	TEC Case Number	Collision Severity
Site X	2019	XXXXX	Injury
Site X	2020	XXXXX	Property Damage Only
Site X	2020	XXXXX	Fatal
Site X	2021	XXXXX	Property Damage Only
Site Y	2019	XXXXX	Injury
Site Y	2020	XXXXX	Fatal
Site Z	2021	XXXXX	Property Damage Only
Site A	2021	5026917	Property Damage Only
Site A	2022	5117598	Injury
Site A	2023	5159427	Injury
Site B	2019	1077074	Property Damage Only
Site C	2019	1073061	Property Damage Only
Site D	2022	5149750	Injury
Site E	2019	1084584	Injury
Site F	2019	1101386	Property Damage Only

Section 4: Proposed Safety Measures

1. List the proposed safety measures (provide backup documentation via email submission):

1. Proposed Safety Measures: Installation of a solar-powered RSIS designed to combat speed adaptation. Programmed flashing alerts for vehicles exceeding 65km/hr. Positioning for 200m visibility to accommodate heavy-haul truck engine-braking. Data collection for vehicle counts and speed trends.

2. Describe specific outcomes the municipality hopes to achieve after implementing the proposed safety measures:

Statistically significant reduction in average vehicle speeds transitioning into the 60km/hr zone. Elimination of "speed creep" into residential blocks. Lowering the incident rate based on surrounding 500m collision data. Prevention of "Property Damage" incidents escalating into "Injury" or "Fatal" collisions. Protection for vulnerable road users on the 8 km corridor to Spirit River.

Authorization

Submitted by (Name and Position):

Monty Bremont, Assistant CAO, Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133

Monty Bremont Digitally signed by Monty Bremont
Date: 2026.01.06 15:00:45 -0700

Signature

Submission Instructions:

Email your completed and signed application and any related backup documentation by clicking the submit button below.



MEETING: RM 09-26
MEETING DATE: May 13, 2026
ORIGINATED BY: Administration
TITLE: Request for Sponsorship and Transit Bus Use for Seniors Week Event 2026

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL

Seniors Weeks is celebrated annually in the Central Peace region. Many local organizations collaborate to host events celebrating our Seniors. This year, the Central Peace Health and Wellness Coalition, with Family and Community Support Services, are planning an event that will take place at the Woking Multiplex on June 1st, 2026, from 10am until 4pm.

In the past, the Municipal District of Spirit River donated the use of the MD Transit Bus, including driver, to the Seniors Celebration organizers for their use in transporting Seniors to an event location. This service has always been well-received and sincerely appreciated.

This year, the organizing groups have requested support in the form of sponsorship for lunch, guest speaker, grab bags, door prizes, and entertainment. They will acknowledge support on their social media and at the event.

Please see the attached letter for further information regarding the request from CPHaWC and FCSS.

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION

That Council direct Administration accordingly.

SCANNED

April 27 , 2026

Central Peace Health and Wellness Coalition
Box 658
Spirit River AB T0H3G0

RE: SENIORS WEEK JUNE 1, 2026

Central Peace Health and Wellness and FCSS are in the early stages of planning a senior's event for June 1, 2026. We will hold this event at the Woking Multiplex from 10-4:00 pm.

This is an event for all seniors residing in Saddle Hills County, Town of Spirit River, Village of Rycroft, MD of Spirit River and Birch Hill County. We are planning for a mini spa: nails, hair, make-up, hand message as well as a few vendors with information related to wellness.

We are looking at sponsorships for the following:

Lunch
Guest speaker
Grab bags
Door prizes
Entertainment

Sponsorship will be acknowledged with a poster of your group on the walls of the hall and on social media.

We hope to have transportation in place for the seniors who do not drive.

For more information, please contact Denise at 780-864-0545 or Carla at 780-864-1801

Thank you for your support.

Denise Skoworodko Chair

Carla Day Vice Chair

Shelley Loroff FCSS Coordinator



MEETING: RM 09-26
MEETING DATE: May 13, 2026
ORIGINATED BY: Administration
TITLE: Request for Sponsorship of Advertising Space in Alberta-Northwest Territories Military Service Recognition Book

BACKGROUND/PROPOSAL

The Military Service Recognition Book is dedicated to honouring the many Veterans that sacrificed selflessly for so many in defending our Country.

The Alberta-NWT branch of The Royal Canadian Legion is seeking support of its 20th annual Military Service Recognition Book through the purchasing of advertising space. The Royal Canadian Legion sincerely appreciates past support the Municipal District of Spirit River has shown over the years and appreciates any contribution. The MD has supported this initiative for 16 consecutive years.

In previous years the MD purchased an 1/4 advertisement at a cost of \$690.00. Enclosed are the price points and advertising options available for Council's perusal.

RECOMMENDATION/RESOLUTION

That the MD provide support to the Alberta NW Command through purchase of an advertisement in the 20th annual edition of the Royal Canadian Legion Service Recognition Book in the amount of \$690.00.

Or

That Council direct Administration accordingly regarding the request for support for the annual military Service Recognition book.



Alberta-Northwest Territories Command
The Royal Canadian Legion
“Military Service Recognition Book”

Dear Sir/Madam:

Thank you for your interest in the **Alberta-Northwest Territories Command of The Royal Canadian Legion**, representing **Veterans** in Alberta and the NWT.

The **Alberta-NWT Command** is very proud to be preparing our 20th Anniversary digital **“Military Service Recognition Book”** that helps recognize and honour many of our brave **Veterans** who served our Country so well during times of great conflict, as well as our modern-day veterans. This annual publication goes a long way to help the Legion in our job as the **“Keepers of Remembrance”**, so that none of us forget the selfless contributions made by our **Veterans**. Digital copies of past editions are available to view at <https://abnwtlegion.com/community/military-service-recognition-books/> or you may scan the QR code below for easy access.

We would like to have your organization’s support for this special Remembrance project by sponsoring an advertisement space in our **“Military Service Recognition Book.”** Proceeds raised from this important project will allow the Command to improve our services to **Veterans** and the more than 170 communities that we serve throughout Alberta and the NWT. The Legion is recognized as one of Canada’s largest **“Community Service”** organizations and we are an integral part of all the communities we serve. This project ensures the Legion’s continued success in providing very worthwhile services.

Enclosed, please find a rate sheet for your review. Whatever you are able to contribute to this worthwhile endeavor would be greatly appreciated. For further information please contact the **Alberta-NWT Command Campaign Office** toll free at **1-888-404-1877**.

Thank you for your consideration and/or support.

Sincerely,

Dave Velichko
 President



MSR Guide



**Alberta-Northwest Territory Command
The Royal Canadian Legion**

“Military Service Recognition Book”

Advertising Prices

<u>Ad Size</u>	<u>Cost</u>		<u>GST</u>		<u>Total</u>
Full Colour Outside Back Cover	\$2,776.19	+	\$138.81	=	\$2,915.00
Inside Front/Back Cover (Full Colour)	\$2,414.29	+	\$120.71	=	\$2,535.00
Full Colour 2 Page Spread	\$3,861.90	+	\$193.10	=	\$4,055.00
Full Page (Full Colour)	\$1,928.57	+	\$96.43	=	\$2,025.00
Full Page	\$1,447.62	+	\$72.38	=	\$1,520.00
½ Page (Full Colour)	\$1,085.71	+	\$54.29	=	\$1,140.00
½ Page	\$842.86	+	\$42.14	=	\$885.00
¼ Page (Full Colour)	\$657.14	+	\$32.86	=	\$690.00
¼ Page	\$533.33	+	\$26.67	=	\$560.00
1/10 Page (Full Colour)	\$395.24	+	\$19.76	=	\$415.00
1/10 Page (Business Card)	\$328.57	+	\$16.43	=	\$345.00

G.S.T. Registration # R12 397 0410

All typesetting and layout charges are included in the above prices.

A complimentary Certificate of Appreciation will be received by all advertisers purchasing space of 1/10 page and up, as a show of appreciation from the Alberta-NWT Command.



PLEASE MAKE CHEQUE PAYABLE TO:
Alberta-NWT Command
The Royal Canadian Legion
(AB-NWT RCL)
(Campaign Office)
 P O Box 2275, Stn. M
 Calgary, AB T2P 2M6





From: Chris Melanson <cmelanson@campaign-office.com>
Sent: May 6, 2026 12:26 PM
To: Shirley Hayden <cao@mdspiritriver.ab.ca>
Subject: ALBERTA/ NWT COMMAND -ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION - MILITARY SERVICE RECOGNITION BOOK

Hello Shirley;

Please find enclosed a written request for your support for the **Alberta - NWT Command Royal Canadian Legion's 20th anniversary digital Military Service Recognition Book**, honoring and recognizing our Veterans.

Here's your annual partnership ad. Still only \$690. tax incl.

We are profoundly indebted to our Veterans. Their extraordinary service and commitment have afforded us the rights and freedoms that are merely a dream to millions of people around the globe. The Royal Canadian Legion provides Alberta and the NWT's Veterans with unwavering support, and our annual digital Military Service Recognition Book is a fitting tribute to our Veterans.

We would sincerely appreciate your organization's support and appreciation by purchasing an advertisement in our next edition. If you require any additional information, please reply to this email or phone me at our toll-free number below. I will be in contact for your response. Thank you again for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Chris Melanson

Advertising Rep/Military Service Recognition Book

Alberta / NWT Command - Royal Canadian Legion



Here's your annual partnership ad. Still only \$690. tax incl.



Municipal District of Spirit River #133

Box 389
Spirit River, Alberta T0H 3G0
(780) 864-3500 Fax: (780) 864-4303

Email: mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca

In Celebration of Veterans Day,
we owe you our thanks but most
importantly we owe you - our
freedom. To those
who have secured
our way of life,
Thank you!





Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133

Box 389 Spirit River, Alberta T0H 3G0
E-mail: mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca

Telephone (780) 864-3500
Fax: (780) 864-4303

COPY

Pleasantview Lodge
Spirit River, Alberta

Dear Residents and Staff of Pleasantview Lodge,

On behalf of Council, we are pleased to provide a donation in the amount of \$500 in support of Seniors Week activities.

Council recognizes the importance of celebrating and supporting the seniors in our community, and we are happy to contribute toward making this week a meaningful and enjoyable event for all involved.

In addition, Council has approved the use of the municipal bus, should it be required, to assist with transportation needs during Seniors Week. Please feel free to coordinate with Administration if you would like to arrange its use as we would need to make sure our driver is aware & available.

We hope this contribution helps make Seniors Week a memorable occasion, and we extend our best wishes to all participants.

Sincerely,

Reeve, Tony Van Rootselaar
The Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133



RMA
RURAL MUNICIPALITIES
of ALBERTA

RMA District Update

April 2026



Property Tax Accountability Strategy Final Report

The Property Tax Accountability Strategy (PTAS) Working Group (WG) reached a major milestone on March 16 with the release of the [PTAS Final Report](#). This concluded a process that began in July 2025 and involved collaboration between RMA, the Government of Alberta, the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER), and municipal and industry representatives. Over the course of eight meetings, the WG undertook legislative and regulatory analysis, reviewed data, and worked through technical issues to develop comprehensive recommendations.

The final report includes seventeen recommendations organized into five themes, each directly informed by the PTAS WG's Terms of Reference. At a high level, the WG was tasked with:

- ◆ Exploring strategies to recover as much as possible of the estimated \$253.9 million in unpaid oil and gas property taxes
- ◆ Improving the quality, consistency, and use of data related to unpaid taxes
- ◆ Understanding and addressing the operational and financial impacts of unpaid taxes on municipalities
- ◆ Identifying legislative and regulatory gaps and recommending changes to strengthen industry accountability
- ◆ Developing transparent recommendations supported by an implementation and monitoring framework

These objectives reflect a recognition that existing municipal tax recovery tools are ineffective for oil and gas properties, and that a coordinated regulatory approach is necessary to address the more than \$250 million in cumulative unpaid taxes owed to rural municipalities. As identified throughout the PTAS process, this shortfall continues to have significant impacts on municipal budgets, service levels, and long-term financial planning.

In [RMA's March 16 Media Release](#), President Kara Westerlund emphasized that the recommendations “provide a path forward to ensure companies are held responsible,” and highlighted the value of bringing municipal, industry, government, and regulatory leaders together to align on both the impacts and the solutions. She noted that this shared understanding will be critical as the focus shifts from developing recommendations to determining how they will be implemented.

With the report now released, RMA will be following up with the Government of Alberta and the AER to confirm next steps and ensure implementation reflects the intent of the Working Group's work. As the implementation process takes shape, RMA will continue to keep members informed and advocate for a clear path forward.

The release of the PTAS report represents meaningful progress on a long-standing issue for rural municipalities. RMA appreciates the significant contributions of members and partners throughout this process and remains committed to ensuring the recommendations lead to practical, lasting change.

Bill 28: Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026

On April 2, 2026, the Government of Alberta [introduced Bill 28: Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026](#) for first reading. Bill 28 makes significant changes to the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA) and other legislation with wide-ranging impacts on municipalities. RMA is currently in the process of conducting a detailed analysis of Bill 28, which will be shared with members in the coming days. Based on an initial analysis, the Bill increases standardization of municipal processes, reduces municipal autonomy, and

centralizes decision-making power in areas such as land use planning and development, assessment and property tax, governance and accountability, municipal transparency, public institutions and utilities, aggregate pits, and seniors lodges. President Westerlund shared an initial overview of the most substantial changes with RMA mayors/reeves and CAOs on April 2.

While the amount and scope of Bill 28 changes is significant, RMA is particularly concerned with the addition of s. 619.1 to the MGA, which significantly reduces municipal planning and development control over aggregate pits by establishing that provincial approvals under the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act* take precedence over any municipal plan, bylaw, or development permit. This change undermines local autonomy over development, and could introduce significant risks to rural landowners, infrastructure, and other areas.

Additional notable changes in Bill 28 include the establishment of a councillor accountability framework (with details to be developed through regulation), the ability for the Minister to mandate municipal use of “Automatic Yes” permitting and automated permit approval systems, the ability of the Minister to treat citizen votes following a viability review as non-binding, additional details related to CAO reporting requirements first established in Bill 50, clarity that municipalities may include Police Funding Model costs as requisitions on property tax bills, broadening of mandatory municipal requisitions related to housing management bodies, and many others.

RMA plans to advocate for reconsideration of many of the provisions in Bill 28, as well as to ensure that the many changes that require further detail and clarity through regulation and are implemented in a way that preserves municipal autonomy to the greatest extent possible.

Electoral Boundaries Review Commission Final Report

On March 26, 2026, the [Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission](#) submitted its [final report](#) to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, as per its requirements in the [Electoral Boundaries Commission Act](#). The report also includes a minority report from two dissenting commissioners, which includes alternative boundary maps.

The Legislative Assembly will now review the Commission’s recommendations, propose possible amendments, and introduce legislation for debate and vote intended to finalize and implement electoral boundaries based on the Commission’s recommendations as presented or amended.

The Legislative Assembly has no mandated timeline for reviewing the report and recommendations or for when legislation is introduced, debated, and voted on. For this reason, next steps are unclear.

Notable recommendations for change from the existing electoral districts include the following:

- Add two electoral districts to the City of Calgary.
- Add one electoral district to the City of Edmonton (in the form of two new urban/rural “hybrid ridings” on the south end of the city, combined with the removal of one riding within the city core).
- Restructure four existing Calgary ridings as hybrid ridings in combination with surrounding rural areas.
- Eliminate the Lac St. Anne-Parkland and Rimbey-Rocky Mountain House-Sundre electoral divisions by combining them with neighbouring electoral divisions.
- Increase the overall number of hybrid ridings from 18 to 27.
- Apply “s. 15(2)” powers to develop three electoral districts with a population greater than 25% below the provincial average (Lesser Slave Lake, Central Peace-Notley, Canmore-Banff).

RMA has not yet conducted a detailed analysis of the Commission's final report. RMA's previous [written feedback](#) in response to the Commission's [interim report](#) in December 2025 included the following key themes:

- Population variance: the interim report did not adequately utilize the full 25% +/- population variance range available to preserve rural electoral districts.
 - Based on initial analysis, this approach appears to have been maintained in the final report, as no riding is more than 14.3% above the provincial average despite the 25% threshold.
- Consistent consideration of geographic and community factors across urban and rural electoral districts: the interim report did not appear to consider factors such as community connections, transportation links, etc. consistently across urban and rural ridings.
 - RMA has not yet examined specific electoral district justification used in the final report to determine if and how consideration of such factors changed from the interim report.
- Use of s. 15(2) population variance threshold exemption: the interim report proposed only one electoral district below the 25% population variance threshold despite the Act allowing for up to four.
 - The final report expands use of s. 15(2) to apply to three electoral districts, including Lesser Slave Lake, which was eliminated in the interim report.
- Hybrid ridings: the interim report expanded the use of hybrid ridings, including to Edmonton and Calgary, which could have significant impacts on effective representation for both urban and rural residents in the hybrid ridings.
 - The final report further increases the use of hybrid ridings.

RMA will share a more detailed summary and analysis of the final report with members in the coming weeks.

Agritourism Strategy Working Group

RMA has launched an Agritourism Strategy Working Group to guide the development of a comprehensive provincial strategy that supports the responsible growth, promotion, and regulation of agritourism in Alberta.

The Working Group is currently identifying gaps, challenges, and opportunities within the sector, and will meet with a variety of delegates to better understand how to create a sustainable agritourism strategy going forward.

RMA is excited about the work being undertaken through this process and how it will inform the final report.

Police Funding Model

The new Police Funding Model (PFM) came into effect on April 1, 2026. This new iteration of the PFM will result in increased costs for members due to an overall increase in policing costs, from \$252.3 million province-wide to \$380.5 million. The portion of this cost paid by municipalities is unpredictable as the details of the formula include factors that change from year to year. Most importantly for members, there are no guarantees of increased service levels, enhanced local input, or greater transparency surrounding where the contributions are going.

RMA has distributed an Advocacy Guide to members to assist with local advocacy initiatives. Use of this guide is encouraged to share the impacts that PFM cost increases will have on rural community viability. The intention is for this advocacy initiative to lead to changes to the PFM before it is fully implemented.

Members are encouraged to share the estimates of their PFM contributions provided by the Government of Alberta with policy advisor Kallie Wischoff (kallie@rmalberta.com). This information will help inform an overall rural municipal impact assessment that will help further guide RMA's advocacy efforts.

Integrated Water Program and STIP Program Review Working Group Advocacy Update

RMA continues to monitor two Alberta Transportation and Economic Corridors (TEC) initiatives launched in 2025 with direct implications for rural municipal infrastructure: the Integrated Water Program (IWP) and the STIP Program Review Working Group (PRWG).

While both files saw initial pre-engagement activity, progress on each stalled shortly thereafter. RMA has continued to follow up with TEC since work on the IWP and PRWG was paused in March and June 2025 respectively, and TEC has recently indicated that internal capacity pressures and organizational changes have delayed further work on both initiatives. Despite the lack of progress to date, TEC has signaled that it remains committed to advancing both the IWP and the PRWG, and RMA anticipates renewed discussions in the coming months. Additional updates will be provided as information becomes available.

Minister Meeting Summary

Minister Boitchenko, Tourism and Sport

RMA met with Minister Boitchenko and key Tourism and Sport staff on March 16 to discuss municipal impacts that may arise from the introduction of All-Season Resorts (ASRs). RMA highlighted that municipalities are uniquely positioned to identify operational pressures, infrastructure needs, and service implications that arise from increased tourism associated with ASRs.

RMA also discussed the recommendations within the [Eastern Slopes Task Force Report](#) and how many of the recommendations identified could be applied to broader tourism conversations within this Ministry.

Minister Boitchenko affirmed the need for greater partnerships across ministries to ensure consistency and collaboration in working through many of these issues. A commitment was made to work with RMA, Forestry and Parks, and Agriculture and Irrigation to further align positioning and advance shared goals.

Minister Hunter, Environment and Protected Areas

RMA met with Minister Hunter and Environment and Protected Areas (EPA) staff on March 24 to discuss the Sand and Gravel Task Force recommendations and implementation of the *Water Amendment Act* (formerly Bill 7). Amendments to the *Water Act* came into effect on March 11. Minister Hunter and RMA identified potential options to improve engagement and delivery of information to rural municipalities, such as proactive communication with both reeves and CAOs. RMA will continue to advocate for inclusion of a rural municipal

perspective in the development of regulatory provisions to align with amendments to the *Water Act*, and will share opportunities for engagement as they become available.

EPA noted that implementation of the Sand and Gravel Task Force recommendations was in progress. No further updates or insights on potential next steps were available at the time of the meeting.

Resolution Highlight – 8-25S: Opposition to Water Act Amendments

[Resolution 8-25S](#) highlights rural municipalities' concerns with water management decisions taken by the Government of Alberta. This resolution also highlights concerns with water availability definitions and inter-basin transfers and calls for proposed amendments to be stalled until proper consultation is conducted with rural municipalities.

In 2025, the Government of Alberta launched Phase 2 of the Water Availability engagement which informed the creation of the *Water Amendment Act*. RMA provided input related to this resolution to express disagreement with reduced oversight of inter-basin transfers. However, amendments were implemented by the Government of Alberta as proposed.

In March 2026, RMA met with the Minister of Environment and Protected Areas, and discussed the *Water Amendment Act*, highlighting the concerning modifications to inter-basin transfers and related water management changes. RMA will continue to monitor the impacts of the *Water Amendment Act* and continue engaging with the Government of Alberta to ensure adequate municipal involvement in future water policy changes.

EOEP Update

The Elected Officials Education Program (EOEP) is jointly owned and operated by the RMA and Alberta Municipalities (ABmunis). The EOEP was formed in 2007 to provide Alberta's municipal elected officials with professional development opportunities and ensure that they are well-positioned to serve their communities effectively.

There are two courses being offered online this spring – register today!

- ◆ [Regional Collaboration](#)
 - ◇ Date: April 16 | April 23 | April 30
 - ◇ Time: 1:00pm – 3:00pm
 - ◇ Location: Online
 - ◇ Cost: \$295 + GST
- ◆ [Public Engagement](#)
 - ◇ Date: May 6 | May 13 | May 20
 - ◇ Time: 9:00am – 11:30am
 - ◇ Location: Online
 - ◇ Cost: \$295.00 + GST

The full 2026-2027 [EOEP course schedule](#) is available now to assist with professional development planning.

As a reminder, participants who complete all seven core EOEP courses will earn their [Municipal Elected Leaders Certificate](#) (MELC), which is offered in coordination with the University of Alberta's Augustana Campus.

RMA Communications

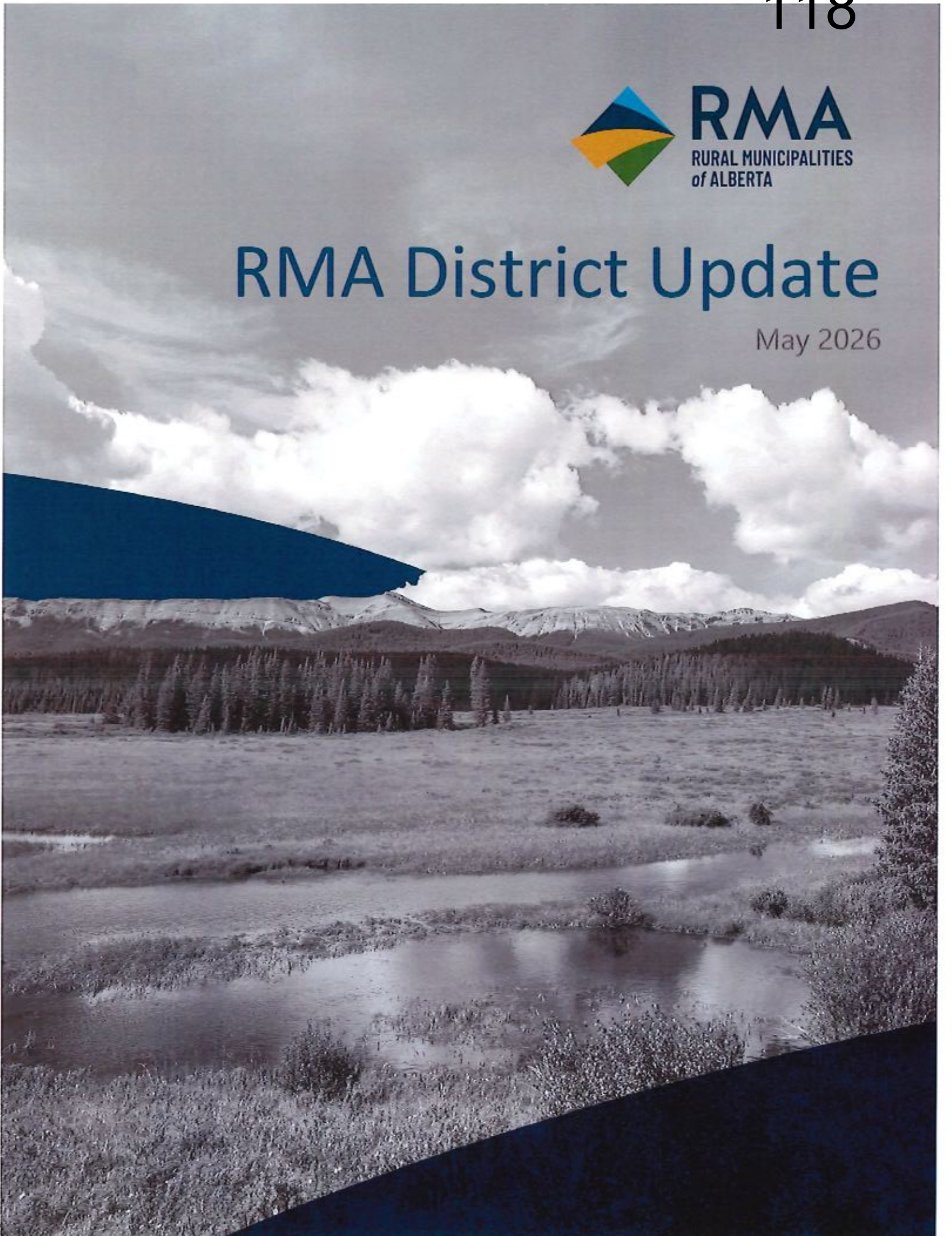
Communicating with members is an essential role of the RMA, both to share information and to obtain member input. To ensure that you receive the most up to date information, please [subscribe to the Contact newsletter](#). Contact is distributed weekly and includes important member bulletins, announcements, and links to news articles that may be of interest to Alberta's municipalities. [Trader](#) is the monthly Canoe newsletter sharing news about procurement services available to members and updates from approved suppliers.

We are also active on social media! Follow us on X [@RuralMA](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [Facebook](#).



RMA District Update

May 2026



Bill 28

Overview

Bill 28, *the Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026*, was tabled in the legislature on April 2, 2026, and proposes wide-ranging amendments across seven major themes:

- ◆ Enabling Growth and Housing
- ◆ Assessment and Property Tax
- ◆ Aggregate Pits
- ◆ Seniors Lodges
- ◆ Governance and Accountability
- ◆ Municipal Transparency
- ◆ Public Institutions

RMA has developed a detailed analysis of the Bill, found here: [Bill 28: RMA Analysis](#). This analysis highlights that while some amendments clarify existing processes or introduce new tools, many signal a broader shift toward increased provincial oversight in areas historically under municipal authority. As many of the most consequential impacts will be determined through forthcoming regulations, RMA continues to emphasize the need for clear provincial rationale, practical implementation guidance, and meaningful engagement with municipalities throughout the regulatory process.

RMA recently hosted a Bill 28 Member Webinar on April 29, featuring RMA President Kara Westerlund and senior staff. The session provided an in-depth walkthrough of RMA's analysis and offered members an opportunity to raise questions and share perspectives. RMA extends sincere appreciation to all members who attended and contributed to the discussion. Member feedback remains essential as RMA continues to monitor the Bill's progression and advocate for member interests.

While RMA's linked analysis provides a comprehensive review of Bill 28's key amendments, it is important to highlight two areas of particular interest for rural municipalities. The following sections outline these amendments in greater detail to support members in assessing their potential operational, financial, and governance impacts.

Housing Changes

Bill 28 makes several changes that may impact future financial and operational requirements for seniors' lodges. Municipal autonomy is likely to be reduced as the Minister can redefine social housing accommodation, set reserve-fund standards, and add new contributing municipalities, which may limit local control over planning, budgeting, and long-term responsibilities. These changes could increase financial and administrative uncertainty for municipalities and RMA is monitoring these provisions closely.

Aggregate Approval Changes

Aggregate extraction occurs primarily within rural municipalities and has a history of creating land use conflicts in some municipalities. The amendments create a binding process that ensures municipal planning instruments cannot contradict or impede provincially approved pit registrations. Pit registrations under the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act (EPEA)* override any conflicting municipal statutory plans, land-use bylaws, subdivision decisions, development permits, or Land and Property Rights Tribunal decisions. These changes raise

concerns about continued erosion of municipal land use authority, reduced local decision-making, and restricted opportunities for community input.

The proposed amendments also do not require the Director to consider municipal statutory plans in their decision-making process. As a result, the Director has more discretion under section 619.1 compared to the quasi-judicial bodies under section 619, as entities such as the NRCB and AUC have some level of consideration for municipal plans within their approval processes; the EPEA does not.

Amendments under Bill 28 are one of three Government initiatives addressing aggregate pit approvals. EPA continues to implement recommendations from the Sand and Gravel Task Force and has resumed updates to the Code of Practice for Pits. RMA is engaging with EPA staff across all three initiatives to ensure the rural municipal perspective is considered.

Next Steps

RMA is actively engaging with the Government of Alberta regarding Bill 28 and its implications for rural municipalities. As this work progresses, RMA will continue to advocate for clarity, practical implementation pathways, and the protection of municipal decision-making authority. Members with questions, comments, or concerns are encouraged to contact RMA's Policy and Advocacy team at any time.

Property Tax Accountability Strategy

RMA has recently released [Property Tax Accountability Strategy: RMA's Priorities and Expectations for Government Action](#), outlining what is required from the Government of Alberta to advance implementation of the Property Tax Accountability Strategy (PTAS) Final Report. The PTAS represents a coordinated effort between RMA, the Government of Alberta, the Alberta Energy Regulator, and municipal and industry partners to address the ongoing issue of unpaid oil and gas property taxes. With the Final Report completed in March 2026, the next step is for the province to move the Strategy into implementation; however, no timelines, plans, or formal response have yet been communicated.

RMA's document provides a high-level overview of the PTAS recommendations and emphasizes that while the Working Group identified the necessary tools and legislative changes, implementation now requires clear provincial leadership, defined responsibilities, and transparent monitoring.

RMA's Expectations for Government Action

RMA has identified several immediate priorities for the Government of Alberta, including:

- ◆ Providing a clear timeline for Cabinet's review and formal response to the PTAS Final Report.
- ◆ Committing to a coordinated implementation strategy, including sequencing of recommendations and assignment of responsibilities.
- ◆ Initiating development of a monitoring framework with meaningful indicators and transparent public reporting.
- ◆ Beginning planning to realize the intended PTAS outcomes and assess progress over time.
- ◆ Outlining how and when municipalities, the AER, and industry will be engaged in implementation and monitoring.

- ♦ Advancing early administrative improvements that do not require legislative or regulatory change.

RMA has shared the document with Minister Jean and Minister Williams and requested a formal government response outlining next steps. RMA will update members as soon as a response is received and will continue advocating for timely, coordinated action on this file.

Assessment Model Review

On April 2, the Minister of Municipal Affairs publicly shared a series of policy decisions related to next steps in the review of the regulated assessment model for non-residential property. The Assessment Model Review (AMR) began in spring 2024 and was placed on hiatus by the Minister due to stakeholder non-consensus on several key decision points. On April 21, RMA shared an email update with members providing an analysis of the Minister's decisions and next steps in the AMR process.

In general, RMA was comfortable with the Minister's decisions on non-consensus items related to regulated assessment model principles and the methodology for determining the base construction costs of regulated assets. However, RMA is concerned with decisions on issues that have not yet been addressed within the AMR engagement process, including a prioritization for expanding the use of standardized rates, use of a depreciation floor and ceiling for machinery and equipment property, and special assessment methodology for mature assets. All three decisions introduce risks of undermining the stakeholder-driven nature of the process and could have unknown impacts on the ultimate outcomes.

The AMR Steering Committee reconvened on April 25 to discuss governance and process considerations as the AMR transitions into a focus on updating rates for specific property types, beginning with railway, telecommunications, and electrical generation properties. RMA will continue to update members on the AMR.

Agritourism Strategy Working Group

RMA is continuing work on the Agritourism Strategy Working Group to guide the development of a comprehensive provincial strategy that supports the responsible growth, promotion, and regulation of agritourism in Alberta. At the May meeting, the Working Group is meeting with the following delegates to help inform their recommendations:

- ♦ Alberta Health Services
- ♦ Alberta Municipal Affairs
- ♦ Indigenous Tourism Alberta
- ♦ Agritourism Ontario
- ♦ RMA Insurance

RMA will share key updates with members and is looking forward to developing a public facing report in Summer 2026.

Police Funding Model

The new Police Funding Model (PFM) came into effect on April 1, 2026 and results in RMA members to paying increased and unpredictable policing costs with no guarantees of improved frontline services.

RMA received a number of 5-year preliminary estimates from members that will help inform the creation of an impact analysis to unpack the true cost of the PFM on members and assist with further advocacy initiatives. While members are in the process of receiving their actual invoices from the GOA on their PFM contribution requirements, it will be important to monitor the differences between what was estimated and what is actually being charged, especially in subsequent years as the original estimates become further removed from the in-year costs influenced by multiple factors such as the unknown growth in provincial policing costs.

Data Centre Report

On Friday, April 24, RMA released its new [Data Centre Primer](#), a member resource developed in response to the rapid changes that have reshaped Alberta's emerging data-centre sector over the past 18 months.

Since the province introduced its Artificial Intelligence Data Centre Strategy in December 2024, there have been major legislative amendments and policy shifts affecting electricity availability, transmission planning, municipal property assessment, corporate taxation, and other areas, as well as new questions emerging related to land-use, water availability, and even municipal autonomy. Because most large and hyperscale data-centre developments are being proposed in rural Alberta, RMA is seeking to provide members with some clarity and high-level guidance as municipalities begin to evaluate potential projects and developments.

The Data Centre Primer summarizes key developments from December 2024 through the end of March 2026 and offers accessible information to support members' local decision-making on data-centre proposals. As this sector is likely to continue evolving quickly, RMA will update the Primer periodically to ensure that members have access to timely, accurate information as new policy changes emerge.

Resolution Highlight – 5-23F: Municipal Involvement in Quasi-Judicial Agencies

Over the years, rural municipalities have raised concerns about the engagement and approval processes of quasi-judicial agencies such as the AER, the NRCB and the AUC. In resolution 5-23F, members are calling for increased accountability, involvement and transparency for municipalities involved in project approval and hearing process across all provincial quasi-judicial agencies. These requests emerged from cases where local needs, public interest and municipal development plans were not adequately considered by the AUC as part of the agency's approval process. Rural municipalities need to be meaningfully involved in engagement and approval processes as early as possible to help support municipal decision-making and informed land use planning.

Rural municipalities should also be involved in consultation processes seeking to change existing regulatory practices administered by quasi-judicial agencies. To that end, the AUC conducted an extensive consultation process through their review of Rule 007. RMA is pleased to see that many of the outcomes of this consultation

have resulted in regulatory changes that will benefit municipalities. In February 2024, as part of the Rule 007 review, the minister of Affordability and Utilities requested that standardized setbacks for renewable energy infrastructure be implemented across the province. RMA previously [provided input](#) that setbacks are established locally and should remain at the discretion of municipalities. The [AUC recently launched a consultation](#) on the proposed standardized setback distances. In our submission to this consultation, RMA has reiterated our position that setback distances should remain at a local authority's discretion and that the implementation of standardized setbacks minimize municipal autonomy. AUC approvals and changes to AUC processes should meaningfully account for local contexts so that developments and decisions remain within the public interest.

EOEP Update

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Upcoming courses are posted [online](#) – start planning your professional development now!

As a reminder, participants who complete all seven core EOEP courses will earn their [Municipal Elected Leaders Certificate](#) (MELC), which is offered in coordination with the University of Alberta's Augustana Campus.

RMA members interested in completing the MELC in 2 years are encouraged to reference the "[Course Roadmap](#)" for the quickest way to succeed!

RMA Communications

Communicating with members is an essential role of the RMA, both to share information and to obtain member input. To ensure that you receive the most up to date information, please [subscribe to the Contact newsletter](#). Contact is distributed weekly and includes important member bulletins, announcements, and links to news articles that may be of interest to Alberta's municipalities. [Trader](#) is the monthly Canoe newsletter sharing news about procurement services available to members and updates from approved suppliers.

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Emergency Preparedness Week 2026: May 3-9

Posted on: April 10, 2026



Research shows that communities who have established strong social connections before an emergency often experience better outcomes following the emergency, including reduced impacts and recovery time. If affected, your community members are the first to lend a hand, as well as the last, as you rebuild your community together. However, the 2025 Preparedness Survey of Albertans reports that only 12% of Albertans have an established community support system. Emergency Preparedness (EP) Week, a national campaign dedicated to building risk literacy and community resilience, takes place May 3-9 this year and will be focused on the steps to make community connections, including:

- Defining community
- Identifying everyday opportunities to make connections
- Learning who is in your community, including the skills, knowledge and resources you could share
- Learning who community connections play a role during and after an emergency
- We all have a role to play in emergency preparedness—but if we work together, we are more resilient.

We're In It Together—before, during and after an emergency. Visit Alberta's Be Prepared program's dedicated EP Week webpage at www.alberta.ca/EPWeek (<http://www.alberta.ca/EPWeek>) for more information and resources to share in your household, community and workplace.

Strengthening community and Indigenous partnerships alongside intermunicipal collaboration and provincial-municipal collaboration are key recommendations in RMA's **Wildfire Working Group Report**

(<https://rmalberta.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/RMA-Wildfire-Working-Group-Report.pdf>) and the **Alberta Wildfire Mitigation Strategy** (<https://open.alberta.ca/dataset/a205dcde-1f02-4a23-a306-1416bd25683f/resource/e135d79c-2bbb-4481-9962-da4a30922652/download/fp-alberta-wildfire-mitigation-strategy-2026.pdf>).

Stronger partnerships and intergovernmental collaboration can support preparedness, response and recovery measures across a range of emergency situations. As Alberta heads into another wildfire season, RMA will continue to advocate for adequate representation and support in the implementation of recommendations.

Briana Yee

Policy Advisor

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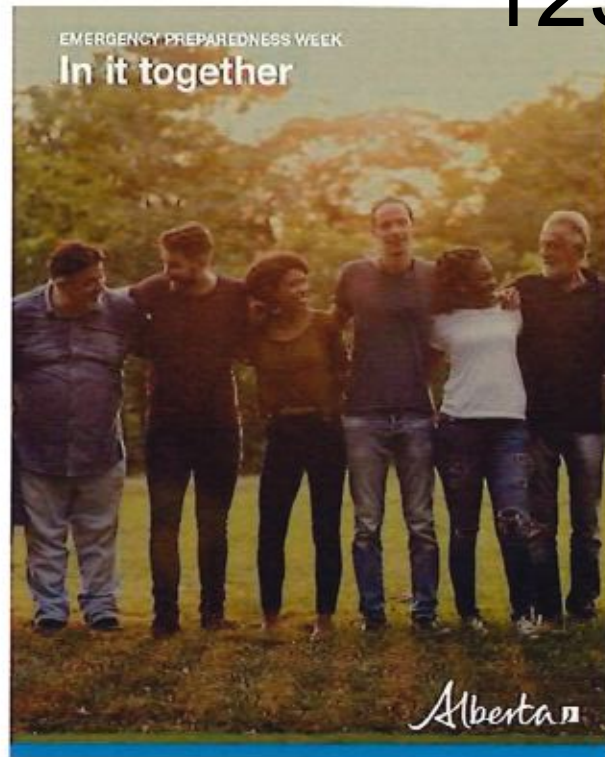
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Source URL: rmalberta.com/news/rma-releases-priorities-and-expectations-for-government-action-on-ptas/

RMA Releases Priorities and Expectations for Government Action on PTAS

Posted on: May 1, 2026

RMA outlines clear expectations for how the province should advance implementation of the Property Tax Accountability Strategy

RMA has released **Property Tax Accountability Strategy: RMA's Priorities and Expectations for Government Action** (<https://rmalberta.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/04-27-26-PTAS-Implementation-Brief.pdf>), which outlines RMA's expectations for how the Government of Alberta should advance the implementation of the **PTAS Final Report** (<https://rmalberta.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/03-13-26-PTAS-Final-Report-FINAL.pdf>) and its recommendations.

Background

The PTAS process brought together the Government of Alberta, the Alberta Energy Regulator, and municipal and industry representatives to develop a coordinated approach to addressing unpaid oil and gas property taxes. With the PTAS Final Report complete, the next phase requires clear provincial leadership to move the Strategy into implementation. However, the issue of unpaid oil and gas property taxes continues to grow, and the government has not provided any updates or direction to RMA, municipalities, or the public since the PTAS Final Report was released in March, underscoring the need for timely provincial action.

Included in the document are several priority areas for government action, including:

- Establishing a coordinated implementation strategy
- Developing a monitoring and reporting framework
- Outlining how and when key stakeholders will be engaged
- Advancing early administrative improvements that do not require legislative or regulatory change

The document emphasizes the need for timely, transparent action to support municipal sustainability and reinforce accountability within Alberta's property tax system.

Next Steps

RMA has provided a copy of **Property Tax Accountability Strategy: RMA's Priorities and Expectations for Government Action** (<https://rmaalberta.com/wp-content/uploads/2026/05/04-27-26-PTAS-Implementation-Brief.pdf>) to Minister Jean and Minister Williams. RMA expects a formal response from the Government of Alberta outlining how it intends to advance the implementation of the PTAS Final Report.

RMA will update members as soon as a government response is received and will continue to advocate for timely, coordinated action on this file.

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Rural Mental Health Network Webinar

Posted on: May 1, 2026



The Rural Mental Health Network (RMHN) is hosting a webinar for rural municipalities to showcase their services and identify opportunities for collaboration.

The Rural Mental Health Network (RMHN) is a province-wide initiative focused on strengthening mental health and well-being in rural Alberta through connection, collaboration, and community-led action. RMHN is not a direct service provider. Instead, it works alongside municipalities, nonprofit partners, and community leaders to amplify existing efforts, strengthen local capacity, and make it easier for rural communities to support mental health in ways that reflect their unique context.

The RMHN is hosting a webinar on **June 3, 2026, from 9:30am – 10:30am** to provide an overview of the network, examples of how rural communities are engaging, and dedicated time for discussion, questions, and shared learning. This webinar is designed for rural municipal elected officials, staff, and community partners who are interested in:

- Supporting community well-being and resilience
- Strengthening partnerships with local organizations and service providers
- Identifying practical ways municipalities can play a role in mental health

To register for this webinar, please **click here**

([https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/HXDa9v_SRIS7Br2nlyPny0#/registration](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/HXDa9v_SRIS7Br2nlyPny0#/registration)).

RMA members are acutely aware of the need for greater access to mental health support in their communities, as evident by **Resolution 6-23S**

(<https://rmaalberta.com/resolutions/6-23s-rural-access-to-supports-for-addictions-homelessness-and-mental-health/>): Rural Access to Supports for Addictions, Homelessness, and Mental Health. RMA encourages members to engage with this webinar to learn about potential support for mental health initiatives in their municipality.

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RMA Primer: Data Centres

An introduction to Alberta's data centre sector and a summary of recent policy developments for rural municipalities

Introduction

Data centres, while not new, are increasing in size and prevalence due to demand for the cloud computing and AI processes they serve. They represent a significant economic development opportunity for rural municipalities, while also introducing challenges related to land use planning, servicing and other local impacts.

This primer is intended to provide RMA members with background information, summaries of recent provincial announcements and legislative decisions, and RMA's analysis of significant impacts, opportunities, and considerations for member municipalities. It also provides some initial guidance as to how interested rural municipalities can work with proponents and the Government of Alberta in relation to moving forward specific projects.

However, because the most significant developments to date have largely occurred at the provincial level, a detailed analysis of municipal land use planning authority or development processes in relation to data centres is outside the scope of this document.

Background

Alberta's Data Centre Strategy

In recent years, the Government of Alberta (GOA) has begun to take action to position the province as a leading destination for data-centre investment through announcements, policy commitments, [promotional missions](#), and direct engagement with global technology companies. While data centres have existed for a few decades now, large-scale and AI-enabled data-centre development have only recently emerged in Alberta. The GOA's efforts have attracted interest from hyperscale firms such as Google, Meta, and AWS, as well as a growing number of non-hyperscale proponents exploring opportunities in the province.

In December 2024, the GOA released its [Artificial Intelligence Data Centre Strategy](#), signaling its intention to make Alberta the preferred North American location for AI-driven data centre development. The strategy emphasizes Alberta's competitive advantages, including its cold climate, abundant natural gas and energy resources, established water-management infrastructure, low corporate tax rates, and ongoing red-tape reduction initiatives. These factors are presented as key differentiators in a global environment where available grid power is increasingly scarce and jurisdictions struggle to meet the electricity demands of next-generation AI computing.

One significant component of the strategy is the creation of the AI Data Centre Concierge Team, a service administered by the Government of Alberta intended to provide guidance to investors and proponents in navigating the regulatory process concerning AI data centre development. However, the strategy does not include definitive timelines or assign specific commitments to departments and agencies within the GOA. The strategy also references expected collaboration between the provincial and municipal governments, and opportunities for municipal tax revenue, though minimal details are included.

The strategy commits to creating an "investment-ready environment" built around three core pillars:

WHAT ARE DATA CENTRES?

Data centres are warehouses with thousands of servers, computers and other IT infrastructure that enable many internet and digital services and platforms, such as cloud services, data storage, social media, online business, cryptocurrency, and increasingly, the Artificial Intelligence (AI) sector. ([IBM](#))

All data centres consume significant amounts of energy, and in some cases, significant amounts of treated water, and little is known about how the attraction of large-scale data centres will impact Alberta's environment, economy, and municipalities in the coming years.

- ◆ Power capacity, focused on enabling high-capacity, reliable, and affordable power solutions, including both off-grid and grid-connected models;
- ◆ Sustainable cooling, leveraging Alberta's climate and supporting innovation in next-generation cooling technologies; and
- ◆ Economic growth, ensuring that AI-driven development contributes to job creation, diversification, and shared prosperity.

To advance these pillars, the GOA outlines actions to streamline regulatory processes, modernize approval timelines, support dedicated power-generation solutions, integrate natural gas and renewable resources, and collaborate with municipalities and Indigenous communities to accelerate project development. The strategy also commits to establishing an AI data centre concierge program, enhancing partnerships with industry, and expanding Alberta's AI and machine-intelligence capacity through new computer infrastructure.

Recent Changes and Decisions

Several recent developments have significantly reshaped the data centre landscape in Alberta beyond the approach outlined in the GOA strategy. While the strategy framed Alberta as a competitive destination for hyperscale investment, subsequent regulatory and system-planning decisions have introduced constraints that materially affect how and whether data centre projects can proceed.

AESO Large Load Connection Limit

The Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) is a not-for-profit organization responsible for safely managing the operation of Alberta's electricity grid. AESO also plans the transmission system, ensures customers across the province are connected to the transmission system and operate the competitive electricity market.

Following demand pressures and policy developments in Alberta's data centre sector, the AESO has recently implemented various changes to maintain the integrity of the provincial electrical grid:

- ◆ One of the earliest and most consequential changes was the AESO's [June 2025 announcement](#) of an interim approach to large-load connections.
- ◆ In response to an unprecedented surge in demand, with 29 proposed data centre projects representing more than 16,000 MW of load as of June 2025, AESO determined that connecting all proponents would compromise the reliability of the province's grid.
- ◆ To protect system stability and ensure that new loads do not exceed available dispatchable generation, AESO established a 1,200 MW cap on new large-load connections between 2025 and 2028. This limit is far below the total demand seeking access and represents a conservative, reliability-first approach that allocates Alberta's now-scarce grid capacity among qualified data centre proponents. AESO also established a Large Load Integration Program, a multi-phase engagement approach designed to coordinate data centre proposals under the new interim limit.
- ◆ While undertaken based on a priority of protecting the province's power grid, the AESO decision slowed or disrupted progress on some data centre projects that had been planned based on an assumption of available grid capacity, due in part to government's promotion of Alberta as an "investment ready" jurisdiction.
- ◆ From the 29 proposed data centre projects in the queue before the 1200 MW large-load connection limit, only two projects were successfully allocated at 970 MW and 230 MW each. All remaining large load requests are expected to be considered in Phase 2 of the Large Load Integration Program with pre-engagement currently underway.
- ◆ By October 2025, AESO's data centre-related queue had grown to over 21,000 MW. For context, the City of Edmonton's entire load is approximately 1,400 MW, meaning that AESO's queue represents the equivalent demand of over fifteen cities the size of Edmonton.

July 2025: Data Centre Levy Engagement

- ◆ In Summer 2025, the GOA engaged on and announced the Data Centre Computing Equipment Levy, which the province stated was designed to generate additional provincial revenue. At the time of the announcement, the levy rate was set at 2% and applied only to computing equipment in facilities of 75 MW or greater, with more details to come in the Fall session of the legislature.

Bill 8 and Bill 12 – Legislative Amendments

In Fall 2025, the Alberta Legislature passed Bill 8 and Bill 12, each of which contained provisions that formalized and expanded the regulatory framework for data-centre development. While both bills included broader fiscal and administrative amendments, they also established the legislative authority for the Data Centre Computing Equipment Levy and enabled the creation of accompanying regulations.

- ◆ Bill 8, the *Utilities Statutes Amendment Act, 2025*, introduced enabling provisions for regulatory changes affecting data centre classification, assessment, and reporting requirements, while also establishing a broader framework to support the province’s emerging data centre sector. Bill 8 also created mechanisms that encouraged proponents to bring their own generation to support grid connections. Based on government messaging, it was intended to align with the GOA’s shift in tone towards a cost-causation framework for transmission and modernized utilities legislation to strengthen the power grid and encourage investment. Although [the GOA has stated that Bill 8 will contribute to requiring](#) data centre proponents to pay for necessary transmission upgrades, including a reference in [Affordability and Utilities’ letter to AESO](#) in late 2024, it is unclear how this requirement is enabled by the legislation and how data centres are expected to cover transmission infrastructure costs.
- ◆ Bill 12, the *Financial Statutes Amendment Act (No. 2), 2025*, introduced targeted amendments to the *Alberta Corporate Tax Act* to establish the Data Centre Computing Equipment Levy. These amendments created a levy of up to 2% on the value of computing equipment in data centres consuming 75 MW of power or more, with lower rates for proponents that brought their own power generation and a 0% rate for data centre and power plant projects that were fully “behind the fence” or not connected to the provincial grid. The levy was also made deductible from Alberta corporate income taxes in the form of a credit. The amendments in Bill 12 formalized the levy in legislation, clarified its application to grid-connected and self-generation projects, and provided the statutory authority needed to administer and enforce the levy as part of Alberta’s broader data-centre policy framework. An amendment to Bill 12 was later introduced to fully exempt data centres with on-site generation from the levy.

Together, AESO’s load-connection cap, the shift toward self-generation, and the entrenchment of the computing equipment levy in legislation and assessment policy have fundamentally altered the environment for data-centre development in Alberta since the province’s strategy was initially introduced in late 2024. While the GOA continues to promote the sector, the combined effect of these decisions is a more constrained and somewhat more complex pathway for proponents and municipalities alike.

Bill 17 – Additional Legislative Amendments

In March 2026, the Government of Alberta introduced Bill 17, the *Fiscal Measures Statutes Amendment Act*, which amends several pieces of legislation including the *Alberta Corporate Tax Act* to clarify that a data centre’s levy rate will be calculated based on its actual consumption of public electricity rather than its grid connection. As a result, if a data centre does not draw power from the grid, it will be levied at 0%.

This is an important clarification for data centres with co-located power generation, which may still need to be grid connected for redundancy in case emergency or back-up power is required, and may also produce surplus power which can be “shed” back into the provincial power grid. Before Bill 17’s amendments, it was unclear whether these types of data centres would be subject to the levy despite not consuming grid power, which created a potential disincentive for on-site generation that conflicted with the Province’s objective of managing limited grid capacity while attracting data centre investments.

By confirming that grid-connected developments are not levied when they are not drawing power from the provincial grid, Bill 17 reduced this uncertainty.

While further development of the data centre policy framework may contribute to investor uncertainty and regulatory complexity for municipalities, this updated legislation is more consistent with previous government messaging as part of the Alberta Data Centre strategy and seeks to balance data centre demand with the province’s power grid constraints.

Electricity Availability

Alberta’s Electricity Requirements

Data centres vary significantly in size, design, and operational intensity, and electricity requirements. Electricity demand for data centres, power production from power plants, and transmission capabilities over linear infrastructure are measured in watts (W), with kilowatts (kW) representing 1,000 watts, megawatts (MW) representing one million watts, and gigawatts (GW) representing one thousand MW. Electricity use is also described using kilowatt-hours (kWh), which measure the total amount of electricity consumed over time. In simple terms, W, kW, MW, and GW reflect the instantaneous demand placed on the grid, while kWh reflects how much electricity is used when that demand is sustained over hours or days.

To contextualize scale, we will use the common household lightbulb, which generally uses around 60W. [According to Peace Power](#), the average residential household in the City of Edmonton consumes approximately 1,200 kWh per month, or 14,400 kWh per year – equivalent to an average continuous load of roughly 1,600 watts, or 1.6 kW. This is the same as running approximately 26 lightbulbs continuously for an entire year.

According to AESO, the entire City of Edmonton has an annual load of approximately 1,400 MW – equivalent to over 23 million lightbulbs running continuously. Alberta’s province-wide load as calculated by AESO at the time of writing is around 11,000 MW.

Grid capacity and the Government of Alberta’s Data Centre Strategy

The impact of new data centre projects on the capacity of Alberta’s grid cannot be understated, as data centres consume huge volumes of electricity. As of June 2025, AESO had recorded over 16,000 MW of data centre-related demand for electricity in their connection queue, which represented an amount of electricity over 10 times that required for Edmonton. In October 2025, the queue had grown to over 21,000 MW, which is over 15 times Edmonton’s demand, or around 350 million lightbulbs.

Alberta currently has insufficient electrical generation and transmission capacity to address the number of new data centre developments planned or in progress, let alone leverage potential long-term investments in grid-connected developments.

TIMELINE OF KEY RECENT EVENTS

→ Sept 17, 2024

Promotional missions for data centre investment:

Minister of Technology & Innovation and a delegation of GOA representatives travel to California to promote the province as a data centre investment destination.

→ Dec 4, 2024

GOA announces AI Data Centre Strategy:

The GOA formalizes its data centre investment attraction and development goals through the provincial AI Data Centre Strategy.

→ June 4, 2025

AESO announces interim limit:

To help manage the significant and recent increase in power demands largely attributed to AI Data Centre development, AESO implements a limit of 1200 MW for new grid-connected data centre facilities between 2025 and 2028.

→ Aug 27, 2025

Data Centre levy and engagement survey launched:

The GOA announces the implementation of a 2% levy on computing equipment within grid-connected data centres and also launches an engagement to gather input from stakeholders on potential levy approaches. The change is intended to incentivize proponents to self-supply and "bring your own power".

→ Nov 25, 2025

Bill 8 and Bill 12 tabled:

Bill 8 redefines "data centres" within existing utilities frameworks and modifies some aspects of regulatory oversight for the AUC and AESO. Bill 12 provides more specific regulations and guidelines surrounding the data centre levy.

→ Mar 10, 2026

Bill 17: Amendments to the Alberta Corporate Tax Act

In March 2026, the Government of Alberta tabled further legislative amendments regarding the data centre levy. In Bill 17, amendments clarify that a data centre's levy rate will be calculated based on actual power consumption and not just grid connection; now, drawing no power from the grid will make a project eligible for a 0% levy rate

Even small data centres represent electricity loads equivalent to thousands of homes, and hyperscale facilities can exceed the electricity demand of entire communities. According to the State of Virginia's Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee (JLARC)'s [investigation into data centres](#) and comparable industry benchmarks, a small data centre typically consumes 50-100 million kWh per year (equivalent to an average continuous load of roughly 6-12 MW), a medium facility consumes 200-400 million kWh per year (23-46 MW), and a large or hyperscale data centre can exceed 1-1.5 billion kWh per year (115-170 MW).

Using the City of Edmonton household consumption data above as an example, this is equivalent to roughly 3,500-7,000 homes, 14,000-28,000 homes, and 70,000-100,000 homes worth of electricity per year, respectively. Because the demand driven by considerable growth in the AI and data centre sector exceeds Alberta's grid capacity, AESO introduced the large load connection limit in June 2025 to help protect the stability of the power grid and manage high demand. While AESO's limitations may contribute to investor uncertainty and appear to contradict the Government of Alberta's data centre strategy, which frames the province as "investment ready" with required infrastructure, it was also a necessary change to avoid severe disruptions to power availability and impacts to the existing grid infrastructure.

Other Considerations

While Bill 17 now ensures that levy rates are tied to actual public power consumption rather than grid connection status, the broader shift towards a bring-your-own-power model still creates significant upfront costs that only the largest, most well-capitalized proponents may be able to absorb.

With limited grid capacity available under Phase 1 and future phases of AESO's Large Load Integration Program, many projects will only have the power to proceed if they develop their own on-site generation; however, building power plants is a capital-intensive requirement that smaller or less-established proponents may be unable to finance.

It remains unclear whether this shift toward self-generation reflects a deliberate long-term policy direction or a reactive response to Alberta's constrained grid capacity, and whether it aligns with the province's broader economic-development goals; as a result, the current approach may unintentionally narrow the range of proponents able to enter the market, which in turn raises questions about long-term

competitiveness and whether smaller-scale entrants will be effectively excluded.

Water Availability and Cooling Requirements

Data centre developments can offer substantial economic benefits for rural municipalities, but they can also apply pressure on rural water sources and infrastructure. According to a [recent media article](#), 76% of Alberta's planned data centre sites are in basins with high or extremely high water stress.

However, the picture is more nuanced than national or international headlines suggest. Water impacts are highly site-specific and depend on design choices, climate, and local water availability.

Data centre water use varies primarily because of the different types of technology available to cool the computing equipment. Evaporative cooling is the oldest and most water-intensive technology, with large or hyperscale facilities in warmer climates consuming millions of litres per day. More modern closed-loop systems typically circulate a glycol-based coolant, but still draw some water; one closed-loop development proposed in Alberta was still expected to draw around 1.5 million litres of water per day between the data centre and the co-located gas plant. Finally, air or “dry” cooling avoids water use entirely and generally operates effectively at temperatures below 30°C.

Alberta's AI Data Centre Strategy explicitly promotes leveraging the province's cold climate for sustainable, low-water or air-based cooling, and the Minister of Technology and Innovation has stated that new, made-in-Alberta ‘zero-water’ cooling technologies are emerging. Several recent Alberta-based proposals (e.g., CAL-2, CAL-3, and AHI in Red Deer County) have committed to air-based or closed-loop systems, which suggests that other proposed developments in Alberta are likely to use a similar approach. However, during heat waves, these types of facilities may still rely on water or other closed-loop systems to maintain stable temperatures, meaning even dry-cooled designs may have seasonal water needs. In all cases, the water consumed by data centres must be clean and potable water generally sourced from municipal water systems.

This seasonal variation is important, as annual averages can obscure the fact that no matter what cooling technology is utilized, data centres would have the highest water needs during the hottest months, when water availability is lowest and agricultural and municipal users are facing the greatest stress.

Regional variation is also significant; so far, many of the proposed developments have been clustered near larger population centres, which provides access to existing high-voltage transmission infrastructure, land already zoned for industrial use, and faster response times for AI chatbots. However, southern basins such as the Bow, Oldman, and South Saskatchewan have been closed to new surface water allocations since 2006, making large water-dependent projects difficult without licence transfers. In contrast, the Red Deer and northern basins have significantly more unallocated water and cooler temperatures that favour dry-cooling technologies.

The emerging “bring-your-own-power” model also applies pressure on water resources. Many developments include on-site natural gas generation, and gas plants may require water for cooling, steam processes, or emissions control. In some cases, the power plant's water needs may even exceed those of the data centre itself, creating cumulative impacts that rural municipalities must understand.

The goal of this section is not to discourage development, but to ensure proposals align with local water availability, infrastructure capacity, and long-term sustainability. Accurate, site-specific information from proponents – especially peak water consumption metrics – enables municipalities to make fully informed decisions and support economic growth while protecting essential community resources.

Municipal Assessment

What is assessment and how does it work?

Property assessment in Alberta is the process of assigning a dollar value to property for taxation purposes. Assessments are prepared annually, based on a legislated valuation date and physical condition date, and determine each property owner's share of municipal and education property taxes. Because property taxes are the primary source of revenue for municipalities, which utilize this tax revenue to fund local infrastructure and services, the property assessment system directly shapes municipalities' long-term fiscal capacity.

Most residential and commercial properties are assessed using the market value standard, which reflects the probable price a property would sell for in an open market. Assessors rely on mass appraisal, a statistical method that values groups of similar properties using common data and valuation models.

However, some property types are too unique, too large, or too infrequently traded to be valued using a market value approach. These include machinery and equipment (M&E), linear property (such as pipelines, power lines, and telecommunications systems), and major industrial plants; these regulated property types fall under the category of Designated Industrial Property (DIP) and are assessed using regulated procedures set out in the *Matters Relating to Assessment and Taxation Regulation* (MRAT), as well as other regulations and ministerial guidelines. MRAT prescribes formulas, depreciation rates, and classification rules to ensure consistency across the province, recognizing that these assets do not have reliable market comparables. This two-track system ensures that specialized industrial assets such as pipelines, power generation facilities, and now large data centres are assessed using a cost-based methodology that reflects the difficulty of establishing a specific market value for such properties.

How will data centres be assessed?

RMA reached out to Alberta Municipal Affairs, Alberta's Data Centre Concierge Team, and engaged with the Alberta Assessors Association (AAA) to better understand how data centres will be assessed following the legislative amendments in Bill 8 and Bill 12.

Large and hyperscale data centres, specifically those 75 MW or greater, will be designated as "major plants" under the Alberta Machinery and Equipment Assessment Minister's Guidelines and will be assessed as DIP by the provincial assessor to ensure province-wide consistency for all developments. The DIP assessment will apply only to land, site preparation, buildings, and assessable improvements such as fire suppression systems, HVAC, and certain cooling infrastructure. If a data centre includes onsite power generation, those components are also likely to be assessable if they meet the definitions of linear property or machinery and equipment under the *Municipal Government Act* (MGA) and MRAT. If they do meet those definitions, then they will be assessed, and subsequently taxed at the municipal level.

It is key to note that the computing equipment contained within data centres that are 75 MW or greater will **not** be assessable and will not contribute to the municipal tax base. Through [amendments to the MRAT Regulation](#), standalone computing equipment (including servers, processors, networking hardware, storage devices, racks, cabinets, and associated cooling components) are now explicitly excluded from the definition of machinery and equipment and are not assessable. This is because MRAT's definition of "processing" refers to the physical transformation of tangible goods, not the manipulation of digital data or the processing of digital data by computer processors. As a result, most of the capital investment in AI-enabled data centres such as the servers, GPUs, networking gear, computer-specific cooling infrastructure, and related digital infrastructure will not form part of the property assessment.

As a result, the assessment of a data centre will not fully reflect the project's total cost to build. The exclusion of computing equipment, which could be more than 50% of the data centre's cost to construct, means that municipalities should expect limited new assessment revenue from computing-heavy data centres, with the

most significant assessable components arising only where proponents build onsite generation or substantial mechanical systems.

While the computing equipment will be assigned a value by the Government of Alberta, it will not inform assessment and property taxation, but rather the application of the new Data Centre Computing Equipment Levy.

Data Centre Computing Equipment Levy

Purpose and Policy Rationale

The Data Centre Computing Equipment Levy is contained in Part 9.1 of the *Alberta Corporate Tax Act* (ACTA) and is a major component of the Government of Alberta's broader AI Data Centre Strategy. The levy is intended to generate provincial revenue from the most valuable assets (the servers, GPUs, networking hardware, and other computing equipment), which are explicitly not assessable for municipal property tax purposes in Alberta due to recent amendments to the MRAT. The Government of Alberta has framed the levy as a way to balance competitiveness with fairness and as a mechanism for the province to capture value from the most expensive component of data-centre developments. The levy applies only to grid-connected data centres of 75 MW or greater, aligning with the same threshold used to classify these facilities as DIP.

Relationship Between Municipal Assessment and the Computing Equipment Levy

Although the Data Centre Computing Equipment Levy uses concepts that resemble municipal or DIP assessment, such as equipment valuation and annual depreciation, the levy exists exclusively to generate provincial revenue. It does not overlap with property taxation, and municipalities cannot collect it.

Because computing equipment is explicitly excluded from assessment under MRAT, none of its value enters either the municipal or provincial property tax bases. The levy does not change this: it provides revenue only to the province, and it does not generate any additional assessment or taxation capacity for host municipalities. This distinction is reinforced in both the legislative amendments and [Assessment Bulletin 25-02](#), which confirm that computing equipment remains non-assessable and that the levy is intended to compensate the province, not municipalities, for this exclusion.

Rate and Scope of the Levy

Beginning December 31, 2026, qualifying data centres (75+ MW) will pay a provincial levy on the value of their computing equipment, including the high-density hardware used for AI training, inference, cloud computing, and digital services. Because this equipment represents the majority of capital investment in large-scale data-centre developments (often billions of dollars) and is not subject to municipal property tax, the levy ensures the province captures value from assets that would otherwise fall entirely outside the assessment and taxation system. Computing equipment will be subject to an accelerated five-year depreciation schedule, reflecting the rapid obsolescence of hardware commonly used in data centres.

Following the introduction of a revised levy formula in Bill 17, a data centre's levy rate is now based on its actual consumption of public electricity from the grid, and is no longer impacted by its grid-connection status as under Bill 12. Under the new levy rate formula, facilities that are grid-connected for redundancy or emergency backup but that do not draw any power from the grid will be levied at 0%, even if they remain physically interconnected. Similarly, a facility that draws minimal power from the grid will face a minimal levy rate, and facilities that rely solely on public grid power will pay a full 2%

This change resolved the uncertainty created by Bill 12 for developments with co-located power generation that maintain a grid tie for reliability or that may shed surplus load back to the grid, and it further aligned the levy with the province's stated objective of encouraging on-site generation to manage limited grid capacity while still attracting large-scale data-centre investment.

Data Centre Computing Equipment Levy Formulas

- 1) The formula used to calculate the **total amount of levy (\$)** payable to the province from a data centre is located in s. 92.3(7) of ACTA, and is as follows:

$$(E + F) \times R$$

In this formula:

- ◆ E = the total cost of the computing equipment in the data centre or co-location facility that is available for use at the end of the calendar year, that is less than 4 years old at the end of the calendar year, multiplied by 45%;
- ◆ F = the total cost of the computing equipment in the data centre or co-location facility that is available for use at the end of the calendar year that is greater than 3 years old in age at the end of the calendar year, multiplied by 15%; and
- ◆ R = the **levy rate**, expressed as a percentage rounded up to the nearest one-tenth of a percent, with halfway values rounded up, that is determined by the formula:

- 2) The formula that determines R, or the **levy rate**, is:

$$(((G - N)/T) \times 0.02) + ((N/T) \times 0.01)$$

In that formula:

- ◆ G = the total electricity received by the data centre or co-location facility from the power grid, directly or indirectly, in the calendar year;
- ◆ T = the total of all electricity received by the data centre or co-location facility in the calendar year from any source, including electricity generated by the operator of the data centre or the co-location facility; and
- ◆ N = the lesser of G and the total of all electricity delivered to the power grid in the calendar year for the data centre or co-location facility under a new power capacity agreement or a self-generation arrangement.

Interaction with Corporate Income Tax

The Data Centre Computing Equipment Levy is fully deductible against provincial corporate income tax, meaning that once a data centre becomes profitable and begins paying corporate income tax, the levy does not create an additional long-term tax burden. In practice, this structure allows the province to collect revenue from data centres during their early years of operation when capital investment is highest and corporate income tax payments may be minimal, while maintaining a competitive, low-tax position.

The levy amounts paid will be treated as a credit against the corporation's income tax burden and can be carried forward for a period of seven years.

Future Regulatory Development

The levy framework was shaped through a six-week consultation with industry stakeholders, and the province has signaled that additional regulations may follow as the sector evolves. These may include reporting requirements, depreciation rules, compliance mechanisms, and further alignment with MRAT definitions to ensure clarity on what constitutes "computing equipment" for levy purposes.

What is RMA doing?

RMA has been actively engaged throughout the rapid evolution of Alberta's data-centre policy landscape to ensure that the rural municipalities who will host most of these facilities are not left behind. As the Government of Alberta advances new frameworks for power connections, taxation, and assessment, RMA's focus has been on ensuring that rural municipal interests and perspectives are understood, communicated, and protected.

Engaging with Members

RMA has engaged with several affected member municipalities to understand their questions, concerns, and priorities related to data centre development. This includes gathering feedback on assessment impacts, infrastructure pressures, servicing expectations, and the fiscal implications of computing equipment being non-assessable. As part of the Fall 2025 Convention, RMA also hosted a workshop session about the data centre industry in Alberta, with speakers representing rural municipal and legal perspectives. RMA has also monitored member participation in provincial information sessions and Q&A forums, recognizing the high level of municipal interest in data centre projects and the need for clear, consistent guidance as projects begin to materialize in rural regions.

Participating in GOA Engagements

RMA has participated in GOA engagement sessions as they arise, including related to amendments to MRAT and the implementation of Bill 8 and Bill 12, as well as remaining in direct contact with the ministries of Municipal Affairs, Technology and Innovation, Treasury Board and Finance, and Affordability and Utilities to better understand and clarify legislative amendments and other policy changes.

Through these engagements and discussions, RMA has emphasized the need for clarity on assessment practices, the role of the provincial assessor, and the implications of the 75 MW DIP designation. RMA continues to advocate for transparent processes, predictable regulatory timelines, and municipal involvement in discussions that directly affect local infrastructure, land-use planning, and long-term fiscal sustainability.

Advocating for Revenue Access for Rural Municipalities

A central priority for RMA is ensuring that the rural municipalities that host the land, infrastructure, and servicing demands associated with data centres receive a fair share of the economic benefits. Because computing equipment is not assessable and the Data Centre Computing Equipment Levy flows to the province rather than municipalities, RMA has advocated for levy revenues and other provincial fiscal tools to be made accessible to rural municipalities. This includes exploring revenue-sharing models, grant mechanisms, or other funding streams that recognize the local costs and responsibilities borne by host communities. RMA's position is that rural municipalities must not be placed in a situation where they absorb the infrastructure and servicing burdens of data-centre development without receiving commensurate, stable revenue in return.

What can your municipality do?

Data centres present both opportunities and risks for rural municipalities. For municipalities actively engaging with data centre proponents or seeking more information about potential data centre development opportunities, the sections below provide a starting point.

Work with the AI Data Centre Concierge Team and Invest Alberta

The Government of Alberta's AI Data Centre Concierge Team is designed to provide guidance to stakeholders navigating Alberta's data centre regulatory environment. As a government entity, it cannot help municipalities or proponents "shop around" for other partners or decide on which proposed developments should proceed. Instead, proponents, municipalities and other relevant stakeholders should engage with Invest Alberta to attract partners and seek advice on how a proposed data centre development move forward.

Invest Alberta is a Crown corporation with a mandate to attract and support private industry investment in Alberta. Through the support provided by the Government of Alberta, Invest Alberta provides funding and support for proponents as well as stakeholders seeking to attract proponents. Rural municipalities can reach out to Invest Alberta to begin collaborating on attracting data centre investment to their regions.

Once a project has all the required partners on board (municipality, power proponent, and data centre proponent), the Government of Alberta advises interested stakeholders to contact the AI Data Centre Concierge team through the [AI data centre portal](#). The concierge team is designed to assist proponents, municipalities and other stakeholders with navigating the regulatory process surrounding data centre development. Given that multiple forms of approval will be required by various regulatory agencies, such as the Alberta Utilities Commission and the AESO, it is important for members to thoroughly understand the regulatory requirements which can be fulfilled by utilizing the services offered by the AI Data Centre Concierge Team.

Following the submission of an initial inquiry, rural municipalities can submit a municipal questionnaire to the concierge team, which enables municipalities to provide an overview of local barriers and opportunities and convey more about the local perspective on potential data centre projects. Municipal questionnaires are designed for local governments that are beginning or active in the data centre project development process. Other questionnaires for rural municipalities to submit include:

- ◆ Initial Inquiry: must be completed before submitting subsequent questionnaires and provides the concierge team with important context and information to better assist stakeholders
- ◆ Project Questionnaire: for stakeholders in the early stages of data centre development, a project questionnaire can help provide the AI Data Centre Concierge Team with a more comprehensive understanding of a given project's intended scope
- ◆ Connect Directory: whereby an interested organization can register as a stakeholder, which helps increase networking opportunities for rural municipalities

Rural municipalities contacting the AI Data Centre Concierge team should be prepared to provide information such as details about potential data centre sites, municipal bylaws and development plans, potential proponents and whether onsite generation is being considered for a given development, as well as any other opportunities, challenges and needs specific to your municipality.

Through correspondences and meetings with the AI Data Centre Concierge Team, RMA has also learned that proponents and municipalities will have greater likelihood of success with a proposed development if both the power generation and data centre facility components are secured. Doing so will help minimize approval and consultation delays and better equip the concierge team to advise proponents and municipalities.

The AI Data Centre concierge team and portal are primarily intended to support municipalities that are interested or involved in various stages of data centre development. The data centre portal is not well suited to receive input about data centre policy concerns or opposition to a proposed development. Rural municipalities with concerns about data centre development are encouraged to use the existing feedback tools to communicate with the GOA such as appeals or by contacting local MLAs.

Collaborative and Proactive Advocacy

The recent rapid growth of the AI Data Centre industry in Alberta and globally is expected to change the rural Alberta landscape, introducing both opportunities and challenges to rural communities.

Although rural municipalities are currently limited in direct revenue opportunities from data centre developments due to the recent assessment policy decisions, RMA encourages rural municipalities to [contact their MLAs](#) to communicate this challenge, and the importance of ensuring data centres provide both local and provincewide economic benefits, to the Government of Alberta. Consistent and clear messaging from a coalition of rural municipalities will help advocate for the inclusion of meaningful revenue opportunities for rural Alberta, especially considering rural municipalities often host data centre developments that bring value to the rest of the province and beyond.

Depending on the size, location, and type of data centre development, projects may also be significant users of resources such as water, land and power. We encourage rural municipalities to take account of resources within the municipality, even before proponents approach the municipality with a data centre project. A proactive awareness of available agricultural land, regional drought conditions and local power needs, among other considerations, will help support informed and timely decision-making and help municipalities better represent their communities.

Rural municipalities may have concerns about a proposed development in their community or concerns about data centre policy more widely. Although a detailed analysis of land use and development relating to data centres is outside the scope of this report, RMA encourages rural municipalities to utilize existing feedback and complaint tools to communicate concerns to the GOA. For example, concerns about power usage may include [municipal engagement forms](#) administered by the AUC while concerns about water usage, licenses or any other decisions under the jurisdiction of Alberta Environment and Protected Areas may involve an appeal made through the Environmental Appeals Board. Concerned municipalities should additionally communicate these potential risks to their MLAs to help ensure transparency and responsible decision-making regarding data centre development in Alberta.

Additionally, we encourage rural municipalities to [contact us](#) to share challenges, opportunities and overall experiences with data centre development in your communities. Remaining engaged and informed will help RMA better advocate for rural Alberta through meetings, research and other engagements, particularly in communicating potential land use and resource risks and securing a revenue base for rural municipalities.



April 17, 2026



Building the future *together*

ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND TRADE SHOW
Edmonton • June 4-7, 2026



Calling all municipal leaders!

From **June 4–7**, join us for **Building the Future Together**, FCM's 2026 Annual Conference and Trade Show. Edmonton will become a national hub for municipal leaders advancing the partnerships, policies and innovations that will shape Canada's future.

This year, we're zeroing in on the challenges and opportunities that will define the next decade for rural communities across Canada. Expect powerful conversations on housing, homelessness and affordability, breakthrough thinking on infrastructure renewal and innovation, and a focused look at the realities facing rural municipalities as they work to sustain services, support growth and strengthen local economies. We'll also elevate the national dialogue on Arctic sovereignty and security, strengthen our approach to community safety and climate competitiveness, and explore how international trade can open new doors for local development.

Don't miss the chance to bring your own perspective to the conversation! Be sure to attend the events that resonate best with your realities, like:

- **The Rural, remote and northern reception**
Presented by ATCO Energy
This networking opportunity is designed for leaders from rural, remote and northern regions who want to exchange ideas, build connections and champion the issues that matter most in their communities.
- **One of our interactive, local study tours**
Learn about innovative, ambitious projects and unique programs that the City of Edmonton has implemented. Discover how it has tackled its municipal challenges and embraced new opportunities for success.
- **Rural plenary**
During this plenary, learn about dual-purpose infrastructure for defense and sovereignty and how critical rural and northern infrastructure can serve both community needs and national priorities.
- **Municipal Den**
Join some of Canada's leading municipal innovators as they present their groundbreaking ideas to enhance municipal services. In this interactive session, presenters will have five minutes to captivate the audience and ignite enthusiasm for their project, service or big idea.
- **Workshops that speak to your priorities**
Find programming that is tailored to rural municipalities' needs, as this year we are offering sessions on future-proofing communities through climate-resilience investments, how satellite technology is transforming connectivity and safety in rural and remote regions, delivering better water and wastewater services through strong asset management, new insights on infrastructure, housing and economic collaboration and practical tools for leading teams through incivility—and so much more.
- **Closing plenary with guest speaker Zita Cobb**
In our closing plenary, Zita Cobb will explore the power of place-based economies to strengthen local identity and drive sustainable growth. Her reflections will offer a compelling reminder that the future of our communities depends on investing in what makes each place unique.

Your experience and perspective are essential to the work ahead. Join rural municipal leaders from across the country in Edmonton and help shape solutions that reflect the realities of communities like yours. AC2026 offers exceptional value and practical insights you can bring home to strengthen your rural community. Let's build the future, together.

REGISTER TODAY

From: Wozny 01 <wozny01@telus.net>

Sent: April 20, 2026 7:27 PM

Subject: Central Peace Firefighters 6th Annual Golf Tournament July 11, 2026

Hello,

It's that time of year again - we're excited to announce our 6th Annual Central Peace Firefighters Golf Tournament, taking place on July 11, 2026 at Chinook Valley Golf Course.

We've attached our sponsorship information and would greatly appreciate your support for this year's event. Proceeds from the tournament will fund the development of our new firehall, enabling us to better serve our community.

In addition to sponsorships, we are also gratefully accepting donations of any kind, including monetary contributions or gift items for prizes or the auction.

We hope you'll consider supporting us in any way and joining us for a great day of golf. Please let us know your decision by June 20, 2026

Thank you very much for your time and consideration. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,
Captain Mike Wozny



Central Peace Firefighter's Association 6th Annual Golf Tournament

Sponsorship Opportunities

We invite you and your company to support Central Peace Firefighters Association fundraising campaign.

In addition to sponsorship, we are also seeking donations of prizes for teams of four, donations for the Silent and Live auction and also products donations for golfers. Product sponsors are asked to make donations of products or promotional items including items with logos in sets of 144 if possible. These items will be used as a complimentary gift for participants and distributed at the beginning of the event.

Please join us for a fun filled day and help us fundraise towards our new Fire Station. A copy of the tournament announcement and entry form is attached for your information.

For further information please contact Mike Wozny at 587-343-4252 or Brian Kroes at 780-500-7027.

Platinum Sponsorship \$2,000

- Prominent Event Banner
- Participation of four (4) golfers in the tournament
- Recognition at the awards ceremony
- Additional signage and marketing opportunities near tournament facility

Gold Sponsorship \$1,000

- Prominent Event Banner
- Participation of two (2) golfers in the tournament
- Recognition at the awards ceremony
- Additional signage and marketing opportunities near tournament facility

Silver Sponsorship \$500

- Participation of one (1) golfer in the tournament
- Recognition at the awards ceremony
- Additional signage and marketing opportunities near tournament facility

Bronze Sponsorship \$300

- Recognition at the awards ceremony
- Additional signage and marketing opportunities near tournament facility

Other Sponsorship Opportunities

- Auction items
- Tournament items for each golfer displaying your company's logo
- Provide team or hole prizes

Please confirm (yes or no) by June 20, 2026 to wozny01@telus.net

**CENTRAL PEACE FIREFIGHTER'S ASSOCIATION
6TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Registration Form

The entry fee to golf the Central Peace Firefighter's Association 5th Annual Golf Tournament on July 11, 2026 is \$110.00 per person and includes an evening banquet.

Golf Format: 4-Ball Best Ball limited to first 144 golfers. There will be prizes galore and a silent and live auction at the post tournament dinner.

TOURNAMENT WILL PROCEED RAIN OR SHINE

ENTRY FORM (Note: All fees must accompany registration)

GOLFER	NAME	PHONE NUMBER
1		
2		
3		
4		

Camping facilities are available, please contact Chinook Valley Golf Course at 780-774-3838.

I wish to purchase _____ additional dinner tickets at \$30.00 each.

Please make cheques payable to Central Peace Firefighters Association and mail along with registration to Box 38, Rycroft, AB T0H 3A0 or email registration form to wozny01@telus.net



Sudbury ON P3A 5C1

Date April 14, 2026
Account Number 10774 7388 RT0001
Reference Number COR003119354029

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF SPIRIT
RIVER NO 133
BOX 389
SPIRIT RIVER AB T0H 3G0

Subject: Your service feedback

Dear Shirley Hayden:

We are writing in response to your service feedback we received on March 13, 2026.

We apologize for the delay and any inconvenience caused in processing your request to update authorization. To ensure the protection and security of taxpayer and business information, the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) requires proper documentation, signed by a person with authority within the entity, in order to update individuals as owners. While there was an administrative delay that has since been addressed internally, the directors were updated on February 4, 2026.

Please use the reference number provided above in all related correspondence and enquiries.

If you have questions about your service feedback, please call us at 249-377-5104.

If you are not satisfied with how we handled your feedback, you can contact the Office of the Taxpayers' Ombudsperson. To find out whether they can review your feedback, go to canada.ca/en/taxpayers-ombudsperson.

Sincerely,

Caroline Ryan
Service Feedback Program

April 23rd/26

Central Peace Fire & Rescue Commission
P.O. Box 249,
Spirit river, AB T0H 3G0
Tel (780) 864-2841
bkroes@cpfrc.ca



April 15, 2026

Attention:

Mayor and Council; Town of Spirit River
Reeve and Council; MD of Spirit River No. 133
Mayor and Council; Village of Rycroft

At the recent meeting of the Central Peace Fire and Rescue Commission, the Board of Directors directed Administration to formally engage our G3 municipal partners regarding the capital funding required for a new regional fire hall.

As the Central Peace Region continues to grow, a modern, centrally located fire and rescue facility is essential to ensure effective emergency response and protection of regional residents and assets. This project reflects our shared commitment to public safety.

To support this initiative, the Commission respectfully requests a capital contribution from each municipality to make up for the expected deficit of \$1,500,000. Based on the CPFRC funding model, we request contributions of:

MD Spirit is 40% (\$600,000)

Town of Spirit is 37% (\$550,000)

Rycroft is 23% (\$345,000)

This joint investment will enhance regional safety, distribute financial responsibility, and strengthen eligibility for external funding programs such as the Community Facility Enhancement Program (CFEP).

We would be pleased to provide further details on the project. To support next steps in planning and grant applications, we respectfully request a letter of intent or Council decision by April 24, 2026, which is the next CPFRC scheduled meeting.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Kroes".

Brian Kroes
Manager/ Fire Chief
Central Peace Fire and Rescue Commission



Box 130, 4502 50 St.
Spirit River, Alberta T0H 3G0
Phone: (780) 864-3998
www.townofspiritriver.ca

COPY

April 22, 2026

Central Peace Fire & Rescue Commission
P.O. Box 249
Spirit River, Alberta, T0H 3G0

RE: Central Peace Fire & Rescue Commission – Regional Fire Hall Project

Commission Members and Fire Chief

The Town of Spirit River has reviewed the April 15, 2026 correspondence from the Central Peace Fire & Rescue Commission, outlining a request for partner municipalities to confirm capital contributions to address an anticipated funding shortfall of approximately \$1.5 million for the development of a new fire hall to be located in Spirit River.

At its regular meeting, Council passed MOTION 26-107, MOVED by Councillor Nicholson that Council approve participation in the Central Peace Fire and Rescue regional fire hall project and authorize Administration to provide a letter of intent confirming a municipal contribution of up to \$550,000, subject to final project costs and provided that the CPFRC funding models is met by all participating municipalities. Carried.

The Town of Spirit River is committed to supporting regional fire protection services and recognizes the importance of this project in enhancing emergency response capacity across the region. We look forward to continued collaboration with the Commission and participating municipalities as the project progresses.

Regards,

Mayor Tammy Yaremko
Town of Spirit River

Cc: Town of Spirit River Council
Village of Rycroft Council
MD#133 of Spirit River Council



Village of Rycroft

COPY

Box 360
Rycroft Alberta
T0H 3A0

Telephone: 780 765 3652
Fax: 780 765 2002
Website: www.rycroft.ca

Attention:

April 23, 2026

Commission Members and Fire Chief
Central Peace Fire & Rescue Commission
P.O. Box 249
Spirit River, Alberta, T0H 3G0

The Village of Rycroft, an active member of the Central Peace Fire & Rescue Commission reviewed the letter provided by the Commission, dated April 15 2026.

The letter outlined the request for partner municipalities to make a capital contributions to accommodate the expected deficit of \$1.5 million for the development of the new Spirit River based Fire Hall.

After review of the 2026 budget the Village of Rycroft must advise that it is not able to provide the requested payment of \$345,000 in the current calendar year. This one request would result in the village having a deficit for 2026.

The Village of Rycroft is dedicated to remaining an active member within the Commission but recommends the Commission consider utilizing the current Rycroft fire hall to meet the commission's response needs along Highway 2 and within the Village of Rycroft.

Further details can be discussed at an upcoming Commission meeting.

Regards

James Verquin
Mayor Village of Rycroft



The Municipal District of Spirit River No.133
Box 389, 4202-50th Street, Spirit River, Alberta T0H 3G0
E-mail: mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca
Telephone (780) 864-3500

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April 28, 2026

Subject: Response Regarding Fire Hall Development and Strategic Planning

Dear Commission Members and Fire Chief Kroes,

Thank you for your recent correspondence regarding the proposed development of the new fire hall. We appreciate the clarity provided on the current project status and regarding the operational needs of the region.

At the last regular meeting of Council on April 22nd, 2026, Council identified as a key priority our interest in evaluating the most fiscally responsible path for funding this infrastructure. Specifically, we would like to explore the possibilities for implementing a debenture option. We believe a comparative analysis will allow us to determine the most favourable interest rate, assess the long-term impact on borrowing capacities, and identify the most efficient repayment structure relative to our projected budgets.

In the coming weeks, as these cost estimates are available and Council has the opportunity to fully examine the financial and structural possibilities, we will reach out to discuss the preliminary figures.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony Van Rootselaar", written over a white background.

Tony Van Rootselaar, Reeve

The Municipal District of Spirit River No.133

TV/sh

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ATCO Cup

Edmonton Classic Horse Show

Thursday, May 21, 2026

5:30 - 9 p.m.

ATCO



The 2026 ATCO Cup is coming soon!

Dear Tony Van Rootselaar,

We are excited to remind you about the upcoming **ATCO Cup** competition at the 2026 Edmonton Classic Horse Show. We would love for you and a guest to join us for an evening of excitement and incredible equestrian talent.

Thursday, May 21, 2026

5:30 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Amberlea Meadows

6645 156 St SW., Edmonton, AB

Please RSVP by May 8 to confirm your attendance.

We hope to see you there!

[Click here for more information and to RSVP](#)

*Dress Code: Business Casual
Invitation is nontransferable.*



CRAA Quarterly Roundup

Hi everyone,

Thanks to those of you who have renewed their membership with the Community Rail Advocacy Alliance (CRAA). Invoices have now been sent to all previous members. Any payments and questions can be sent to Shannon (ssereda@Albertawheatbarley.com) with Alberta Grains, who is now handling invoicing for CRAA.

Your CRAA Executive Team

Advocacy Round-Up

Work is underway to prepare and strategize on how CRAA will capitalize on the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Annual Conference and Trade Show, happening in Edmonton from June 4-7, 2026. This will include hosting targeted meetings with federal officials who are attending the event and preparing key messages for membership to use when engaging in conversations on rail reliability and accessibility. If your municipality or organization plans to attend FCM, please let us know so we can ensure you are included in any applicable meetings.

Now, with the Liberals having secured a majority government in the most recent byelections, we see a strong three-year runway to facilitate meaningful advocacy with the federal government. Up to now, much of the government's work has been dynamic and more uncertain. With a majority mandate, Prime Minister Carney will continue to focus on advancing the key projects and priorities he has announced over the last several months. As the new mandate becomes clearer, we'll be reaching out directly to key ministers to re-engage and reassert our advocacy work.

Provincially, letters have also been sent to key ministers and portfolios, including the ministers of Energy and Minerals, Transportation and Economic Corridors, and Agriculture and Irrigation, to better align the messaging provincial partners are sharing with Ottawa. Through aligned messaging, we can better catalyze support for the industry and the group's priorities.

Canadian Strategy Group completed an advocacy framework for Executive approval that outlined the organization's next steps over the coming months. That has been attached to this email and should remain confidential to this group.

News, Data, and Insights

Below is a sampling of updates related to the rail sector and its implications. Please let us know if you have any insight from your community or industry's experience with rail.

[\\$1.1M Land Deal Secured by Black Pellet Biofuel Business to Add Rail Spur to Northern Alberta Production Sites](#), Financial Post (January 12)

- Powerwood Canada Corp is purchasing 175 acres of land in northern Alberta's MacKenzie County with the intention of building 3.5 kilometres of track to service Canada's first 'steam explosion' advanced black pellet production facilities by connecting them to tidewater. Plans show the company's rail spur joining CN track on the Hay River Line between Hay River, NWT and Roma JCT, AB.

[Growing interest in reconnecting Dawson Creek to Alberta by rail as grain producers feel the impact](#), CJDC TV (January 30)

- The Peace River Regional District is exploring opportunities to potentially reopen the railway between Dawson Creek and Grande Prairie. The rail connection became inactive in 2018 after it was added to CN Rail's discontinuance list that September. The PRRD joined the Community Rail Advocacy Alliance in September 2025 to support efforts to reopen the line.

[Alberta's passenger rail plan faces another delay after missed summer 2025 deadline](#), Edmonton Journal (February 6)

- Alberta's anticipated 15-year passenger rail master plan, which was set to be released in the summer of 2025, has been delayed again. The plan is expected later this year, according to a transportation official.

Prince George benefits from major infrastructure, energy projects, Western Investor (February 10)

- Rail infrastructure projects north of Kamloops, bridge improvements outside Prince Rupert, and double-tracking from Edmonton to the West Coast will increase demand for rail-served industrial properties. As CN Rail's northern B.C. divisional headquarters and regional operations hub, Prince George is home to more than 600 railway workers, so the community stands to benefit from the projects.

Regional leaders press for role in Sea to Sky rail talks ahead of July deadline, Pique (February 11)

- A growing number of communities from North Vancouver to Prince George are calling for formal consultation and public transparency on the future of the BC Rail corridor, as the clock ticks toward a July deadline that could close the door on **CN Rail's lease** on the line. While there is "overwhelming cross-partisan support for a revitalized rail corridor," local leaders are concerned they'll lose control of the corridor if it is sold.

Alberta transportation minister says passenger rail plan coming within weeks, CBC (March 6)

- Alberta's government says a long-awaited passenger rail master plan is expected to be made public within weeks. Transportation Minister Devin Dreeshen says the plan is complete and he hopes to announce it next month. Dreeshen says it aims to include proponents for a high-speed rail line between Edmonton and Calgary, and to connect the two cities and their international airports.

TNRD receives update on fate and state of CN rail line, Ashcroft Cache Creek Journal (March 12)

- The Thompson-Nicola Regional District (TNRD) Board of Directors received an update on the possible closure of a regional line after CN Rail marked the railway from 100 Mile House to Squamish for discontinuance as early as July 2026. Two short-rail operators are bidding on the track, the West Moberly First Nations have been approached about co-governing the track, and discussion of scrapping the railway has ceased.

B.C. Green leader proposes province-wide rail network, CTV (March 18)

- The leader of the B.C. Green Party is proposing a massive passenger rail network across the province, saying the project could create jobs, ease congestion, and boost local economies. Emily Lowan believes the new network could operate routes like Victoria to Campbell River, Vancouver to Whistler, and the Lower Mainland to the Kootenays and beyond.

CN Rail's exit puts Quesnel's economy on the wrong track, CKPG Today (March 30)

- Quesnel mayor Ron Paul is raising concerns about the economic impact of CN Rail ending its lease on the rail line between Squamish and 100 Mile House. He is worried about reduced freight and tourism traffic and is working with local MLA Sheldon Clare on a solution.

Rail company eyes former BC Rail corridor, The Squamish Chief (April 7)

- U.S.-based short-line operator Columbia Rail is expressing interest in 344 kilometres of track running from just north of Squamish to near 100 Mile House after CN Rail announced it would be discontinuing service on the line. Gerry Bisailon, vice-president of design and development at Columbia Rail, visited Squamish, the North Shore, and Lillooet to tour facilities and meet with prospective partners on March 26.

CN moves record grain volumes in March as strong demand continues, Cochrane Now (April 13)

- CN Rail moved a record amount of grain out of Western Canada in March, contributing to the strongest first-quarter grain performance in the company's history. David Przednowek, assistant vice-president of grain for CN, says March shipments reached three million tonnes of grain and processed grain products, surpassing the previous monthly record.



COPY



April 28, 2026

Municipal District of Spirit River #133
Attention: Reeve & Council
Box 389
Spirit River, AB T0H 3G0

Re: Letter of Support – Daycare Grant Application for Spirit River Regional Daycare Project

Dear Reeve and Council,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Municipal District of Spirit River's grant application to support the development of licensed childcare in our region through Spirit River Regional Daycare Project. Access to reliable, affordable childcare is essential to the long-term well-being of families and to the economic vitality of our communities.

Families across the MD of Spirit River and surrounding area continue to experience limited childcare options, long waitlists, and gaps in care for infants, toddlers, and children and especially those requiring flexible or extended hours. These challenges can prevent parents/guardians from pursuing employment, training, or education, and can place additional strain on local employers trying to attract and retain staff and especially those who work in our education and medical systems.

The proposed daycare project will help address these needs by increasing the number of licensed childcare spaces and providing a safe, high-quality early learning environment. In addition to supporting children's development and school readiness, improved childcare capacity will strengthen workforce participation, support local business growth, and help ensure families can remain and thrive in our communities.

As Birch Hills County, we support this application and the MD's efforts to secure funding for this priority.

Thank you for your leadership in advancing local childcare solutions. Please accept this letter as confirmation of our support for the grant application and for the development of Spirit River Regional Daycare Project. If you require any additional information, I would be pleased to discuss this further.

Sincerely,




Albert Poetker

Reeve

Birch Hills County



Grande Spirit Foundation

"We provide quality housing that serves the needs of our seniors, families and individuals."

April 30, 2026

Atten: Monty Bremont
Assistant CAO, Development Officer and Economic Development Coordinator
Municipal District of Spirit River No. 133
4202 50th Street,
Spirit River, AB
T0H 3G0

Dear Ms. Bremont,

RE: Daycare Support


As our community grows, so too does its need for the steady supports that allow families and services to endure and among them, the care of children. The question of establishing a local day care has long been before us, reaching back to the earliest considerations of the new continuing care facility. That facility now stands as a testament to our shared commitment; yet its strength depends, in no small part, upon the people who serve within it.

Those entrusted with the care of others must themselves be supported. In this, access to reliable childcare is not a convenience, but a necessity. It bears directly upon our ability to attract and retain the capable hands and compassionate hearts required to sustain the level of care our residents deserve.

A day care within the community would do more than serve a single purpose. It would lend strength to families, stability to our workforce, and confidence to the future of our region. By enabling parents to take their place in the workforce, particularly in service of our seniors, it reinforces the very fabric of our community.

It is our sincere hope that this letter provides our support for the pursuit of a day care in Spirit River. We are grateful for your leadership and your continued dedication to the well-being of the community we all serve.

Sincerely,


Steve Madden, CAO
Grande Spirit Foundation

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Dr Eva Kitagawa, MD, CCFP
Dr Danae Wolfaardt, MB, ChB, CCFP
Dr Adefolake Olaniyan, MB, BS, CCFP
Dr Deanna Funk, MD, CCFP

Central Peace Health Centre

Phone 780-864-3962
Fax 780-864-4491
(PO Box 608) 100, 4410 – 50 Street
Spirit River, Alberta T0H 3G0

April 23, 2026

To Whom it May Concern:

We are writing this letter to express our support for the Regional Daycare Project (Full Steam Ahead Academy).

One challenge that we face locally in recruiting and retaining healthcare workers/support staff is the lack of childcare services. The establishment of this facility would provide essential support for young families, making it more feasible for them to live and work in the Spirit River area. In turn, this initiative would strengthen the ability to sustain and enhance local medical amenities for our regional communities.

Sincerely,

Dr. Eva Kitagawa, MD, CCFP

Dr. Danae Wolfaardt, MB, ChB, CCFP

Dr. Adefolake Olaniyan, MB, BS, CCFP

Dr. Deanna Funk, MD, CCFP

COPY

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April 22, 2026

Attn: Monty
MD of Spirit River
Box 389
Spirit River, AB
T0H 3G0

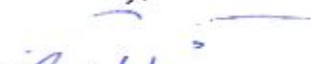
To the MD of Spirit River,

I am writing to provide my perspective on the proposed day care facility planned for the Spirit River Area. At present, we have 3 staff members on, or recently back off of maternity leave. We have another who will be on leave by the middle of the summer. Two of the staff who are off at present were supposed to be back at work last month, but are unable to return as they cannot find child care.

I have spent the last 16 years working in health care—a field predominantly staffed by women, the bulk of whom are in their child-bearing years, or have kids at home. In our society, child-care concerns still largely impact moms, and are a significant cause of stress and lost time for these staff, and a lack of child care options is a direct threat on the sustainability of health care provision. Our health care providers are tasked with caring for all ages of people in our community and the surrounding area, and must have the confidence that their families will be cared for while they care for others.

Child-care is an essential service, not only for those of us in health care, but for our community as a whole. Quality child-care options provide work opportunities for those looking to provide that care, but also frees up a significant number of citizens to be able to pursue employment opportunities that further benefit not just the MD, but the entire G5. We see a significant need for this type of child-care and implore the MD and the G5 to do everything in their power to ensure this facility can be built and provide the care required for health care staff, and many others in the area, to do carry out their daily employment for the betterment of our community.

Sincerely,


Ryan Squires

COPY

April 23, 2026

Tony van Rootselaar-Reeve
Municipal District of Spirit River
4202-50 Street
Spirit River, AB
T0H-3G0

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Daycare in Spirit River

I am writing this letter in support of obtaining a daycare for the town of Spirit River to serve the local and surrounding areas. This proposal holds great promise not only for the local community, but also for the wider region.

At Peace Wapiti School Division, we are proud to employ over one thousand people and play a pivotal role in educating the children with our partner municipalities. The addition of a daycare to Spirit River would have profound impact on our ability to attract and retain employees, which is essential in obtaining the quality of service we provide. A daycare option would make Spirit River a more desirable place to live and give our team members a better chance to build their lives here. Savanna School does have a daycare which gives them an advantage over Spirit River in their ability to attract and retain teachers at the school.

If we are able to attract young people to the Spirit River community, then they would be living, shopping and pursuing recreational interests in the community they live in and would open the door for other local businesses to grow and thrive further strengthening the overall economy of Spirit River. We are excited by this potential daycare for creating more opportunities for all. This is an excellent opportunity to create something meaningful that will resonate for years to come.

I offer my full support for the daycare and encourage all municipalities in the Central Peace to actively pursue this great opportunity.

Sincerely,

Blaine Riding
Ward 2 Trustee
Savanna, Bonanza and Spirit River
Peace Wapiti School Division

COPY



STE. MARIE R.C. SCHOOL
 Box 247, Spirit River, Alberta, Canada, T0H 3G0
 Phone: (780) 864-3585 Fax: (780) 864-4446

Ste. Marie School
 Spirit River, Alberta
 780-864-5420

To Whom It May Concern,

On behalf of Ste. Marie School, I am writing in support of the urgent need for a licensed daycare in Spirit River. As a K-8 Catholic school, we see firsthand how the absence of local childcare directly impacts families, students, and the broader community.

This year alone, I had one staff member who was unable to return to work following maternity leave because she could not secure childcare, and another staff member who reduced her working hours due to childcare challenges. In addition, I currently have a position open at the school that has been difficult to fill, as several of the responses I have received have cited the lack of available childcare as a deciding factor. These situations not only affect our school's staffing capacity, but also highlight the difficult choices families are forced to make in our community.

Many of our parents also face significant challenges balancing work, school involvement, and family life without reliable access to daycare. This lack of childcare not only affects parents' ability to return to work in vital sectors such as healthcare, education, and local businesses, but also places stress on extended family members who often step in to help. For our school, it means some children arrive at Kindergarten or Grade 1 without the early childhood development experiences that licensed daycare settings can provide, creating a readiness gap that can be difficult to overcome.

We also recognize the broader community impact. A daycare in Spirit River would strengthen our ability to attract and retain young families and professionals. Without this essential service, the region risks losing potential residents and employees, making it harder to sustain strong healthcare, education, and business sectors.

For these reasons, we strongly support the establishment of a daycare in Spirit River and encourage regional partners and funding bodies to work together toward this much-needed solution.

Sincerely,
 Carla Knezevich
 Principal
 Ste. Marie School

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To whom it may concern,

My name is Jordan Stephenson, and I am a Registered Nurse who lives in Spirit River and works at both the Spirit River Hospital and the Grande Prairie Regional Hospital. I am originally from the Beaverlodge area, where most of my extended family lives. I am writing this letter in support of a daycare being built in Spirit River, and I want to share my experience finding childcare in the area.

In 2024, I was pregnant with my first child and knew I needed to start looking for childcare in the Spirit River area. I had already heard that there were very limited options, especially for someone working extended hours like myself, as I work 12-hour shifts at the hospital. I was able to find one dayhome that, while not fully regulated, was known as the only reputable option in the area. Unfortunately, the hours at this dayhome are from 0730 to 1730, and without family support nearby, I was unable to use it. I eventually had my mother drive from Beaverlodge, Alberta, to stay with us while I worked. This quickly became unsustainable. I explored other childcare options in the community; however, many did not meet basic safety and quality standards. Without established local connections, it is significantly more difficult to find reliable caregivers in a small rural community.

I ultimately reached a point where I had to choose between securing childcare or leaving my position. In order to continue working, I agreed to pay 33.3% of my daily wage for extended childcare. For comparison, if I worked standard 8-hour daytime shifts, childcare would account for approximately 12% of my income. If this dayhome were part of the Alberta childcare subsidy program, that cost would be closer to 2% of my income. This represents a disproportionate financial burden and highlights how working non-traditional hours significantly increases the cost of childcare.

The lack of childcare in Spirit River has forced me to make difficult cost-benefit decisions that could ultimately result in the loss of a Registered Nurse from the hospital workforce. Spirit River Hospital cannot afford to lose another RN. Retaining and recruiting qualified healthcare professionals to rural areas is already difficult and well documented. In Spirit River, it is not uncommon for there to be only one RN on duty in the hospital, both on day and night shifts. Being the only RN on duty carries a significant level of responsibility, as you may be required to make life-saving decisions before a physician is able to arrive. In an emergency, even a short delay can have serious consequences. Spirit River has struggled to retain experienced nurses, and the site is often used as a steppingstone for new graduates who later transfer to larger centres. As a result, it becomes difficult to build and maintain a stable, experienced nursing workforce.

I have the skills and experience to care for critically ill patients in a rural setting, and it is frustrating to be in a position where my ability to continue working is limited by a lack of reliable childcare. Without access to stable childcare, I may be forced to leave my position, which would further strain an already limited healthcare workforce.

I also want to acknowledge that our community has already shown strong support for this project through local fundraising efforts and municipal involvement. However, without provincial funding, it will be difficult to move forward. I urge the Government of Alberta to recognize the critical need for a regulated daycare in the Spirit River region, as without access to childcare, rural healthcare services will continue to face challenges in retaining experienced staff.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jordan Stephenson

Subject: Letter of Support for a Regional Daycare in the Municipal District of Spirit River

Dear Members of the **Municipal District of Spirit River**,

I am writing as a local business owner to express my strong support for the development of a licensed regional daycare facility within our area.

At present, there are no licensed daycare options available in the G5. This has created a significant gap for working families, many of whom are struggling to find safe, reliable, and regulated childcare. The absence of such services is not only a challenge for parents it is also having a direct and measurable impact on local businesses.

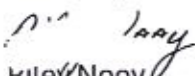
From a business perspective, access to childcare is essential. Employees who cannot secure dependable care often face reduced availability, increased absenteeism, or are forced to leave the workforce entirely. This affects productivity, staffing stability, and our ability to grow and serve our community effectively. A licensed daycare would provide much-needed support to working families and, in turn, strengthen the local economy.

Beyond immediate workforce impacts, a daycare facility would help make our region more attractive to new families and professionals. Communities that offer accessible childcare are better positioned to retain talent, encourage entrepreneurship, and support long-term economic sustainability.

Investing in a regional daycare is not simply a social initiative it is a critical piece of infrastructure that supports businesses, families, and the broader community. I strongly encourage Municipal District of Spirit River to prioritize and support efforts to establish a licensed daycare facility in our area.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,


Kiley Nooy

CEO

NaR Environmental Ltd.

780-864-7897

COPY

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April 23, 2026

Attention: Reeve Van Rootselaar
Municipal District of Spirit River
4202-50 Street
Spirit River, AB
T0H 3G0

Re: Letter of Support for a Daycare Facility in Spirit River

Dear Reeve van Rootselaar,

On behalf of the Peace Wapiti Public School Division (PWPSD) Board of Trustees, please accept this letter of support for the development and operation of a daycare program serving the Town of Spirit River and its surrounding residents.

As one of the largest employers in the region, employing over one thousand dedicated individuals, PWPSD plays a pivotal role in partnering with local municipalities to educate our youth. Access to reliable childcare is a critical factor in our operational success.

Establishing a daycare program in Spirit River would significantly enhance our ability to attract and retain the high-quality teachers and support staff essential to the services we provide.

Currently, the absence of a local daycare puts Spirit River at a competitive disadvantage. For instance, Savanna School's existing daycare provides a distinct edge in recruiting educators to that area. Beyond staffing advantages, accessible childcare makes Spirit River a more desirable place for young professionals to settle and build their lives. When we attract young families, they live, shop, and pursue recreational activities locally. This opens the door for other local businesses to grow and thrive, further strengthening the overall economy of the region.

This project represents an excellent opportunity to create a meaningful, long-lasting asset that will provide benefits for years to come. We are excited by the opportunities a potential daycare creates, and we support and encourage Spirit River's pursuit of this vital initiative.

Sincerely,

Lori Grant
Board Chair
Peace Wapiti Public Schools



Box 130
Spirit River, Alberta T0H 3G0
Phone: (780) 864-3998
www.townofspiritriver.ca

May 5, 2026

To the Regional Childcare Solutions Steering Committee (RCSSC),

On behalf of the Town of Spirit River Council, we are pleased to express our support for the regional daycare project, recognizing the critical role accessible childcare plays in supporting families, workforce participation, and sustainable community growth. While there is no financial commitment at this time as the Town continues to focus on the needs of the community, this initiative aligns with our commitment to strengthening the region's future, and we continue to support efforts to advance this important project.

If anything further is needed, please let us know.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tammy Yaremko", is written over the "Thank you." text. The signature is stylized and includes a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Tammy Yaremko
Mayor of Town of Spirit River

cc: Town of Spirit River Council



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED
TO ATTEND A LUNCH HOSTED BY

Patrick Lortie

*Senior Vice-President and Chief Strategy
and Stakeholder Relations Officer*

Thursday, June 4, 2026
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Edmonton Convention Centre, Riverview Room

9797 Jasper Ave, Edmonton, AB T5J 1N9

[CLICK HERE TO RSVP >](#)

Please RSVP early to secure your spot. In light of limited space, we will be able to accommodate a maximum of two representatives per organization. Registration will close on May 25th.





The Municipal District of Spirit River No.133

Box 389, 4202-50th Street, Spirit River, Alberta T0H 3G0

E-mail: mdsr133@mdspiritrivier.ab.ca

Telephone (780) 864-3500

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April 24th, 2026

Mr. Chris Warkentin, MP for Grande Prairie – Mackenzie

Unit 106, 8501 - 103 Avenue

Grande Prairie, AB T8W 0B7

**Subject: Invitation to MP Chris Warkentin, to attend the Municipal
District of Spirit River Annual Ratepayers BBQ**

Thursday, July 23rd, 2026 11 am to 2 pm

Dear Mr. Warkentin,

Each year in the Municipal District of Spirit River Council looks forward to hosting our annual Seniors Event and Ratepayers BBQ. This year we are combining the events and are excited to be hosting our residents at Nardam Park, our very own MD recreational green infrastructure. The event is happening on Thursday, July 23rd, 2026, from 11 am until 2 pm.

We want to extend our invitation to you, as our Member of Parliament, to please join us, and take this opportunity for you to meet our hard-working residents, who are also your constituents, and to celebrate our rural communities!

Thank you once again for your dedication and hard work representing our region. We look forward to your continued support and welcome you to share in our celebrations.

Sincerely,

Tony Van Rootselaar, Reeve

The Municipal District of Spirit River No.133

rv/rl



The Municipal District of Spirit River No.133

Box 389, 4202-50th Street, Spirit River, Alberta T0H 3G0

E-mail: mdsr133@mdspiritriver.ab.ca

Telephone (780) 864-3500

COPY

April 24th, 2026

The Honourable Todd Loewen

MLA, Central Peace-Notley

Box 120, Suite B, 5001 - 52 Avenue

Valleyview, AB T0H 3N0

Subject: Invitation to Minister Loewen, to attend the Municipal District of Spirit River Annual Ratepayers BBQ

Thursday, July 23rd, 2026 11 am to 2 pm

Dear Minister Loewen,

Each year in the Municipal District of Spirit River Council looks forward to hosting our annual Seniors Event and Ratepayers BBQ. This year we are combining the events and are excited to be hosting our residents at Nardam Park, our very own MD recreational green infrastructure. The event is happening on Thursday, July 23rd, 2026, from 11 am until 2 pm.

We want to extend our invitation to you, as our Member of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta, to please join us, and take this opportunity for you to meet our hard-working residents, who are also your constituents, and to celebrate our rural communities!

Thank you once again for your dedication and hard work representing our region. We look forward to your continued support and welcome you to share in our celebrations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony Van Rootselaar".

Tony Van Rootselaar, Reeve

The Municipal District of Spirit River No.133

rv/r



Grande Spirit Foundation

"We provide quality housing that serves the needs of our seniors, families and individuals."

May 1, 2026

The Friends of the Grande Spirit Foundation are pleased to invite you to support our upcoming fundraising events, both dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for seniors in our care.

We will be hosting our Golf Tournament Fundraiser on Friday, May 29, 2026, at Morningview Park Golf Course, with registration at 11:30 AM and a shotgun start at 12:30 PM. Entry is \$125 per golfer and includes 9 holes of golf, shared carts, a beef burger supper, door prizes, and a silent auction.

How you can support the Golf Tournament:

- Register as a golfer or team
- Donate a prize or silent auction item
- Make a direct financial contribution

Our annual Harvest Dinner & Dance will take place on October 3rd, 2026 at Pomeroy Hotel and Conference Centre in Grande Prairie, AB. Doors will open at 5:00 pm. Dinner will be served at 6:00 pm and will be followed by a live & silent auction as well as a dance with live music by Night Ryders. Corporate tables are \$850 which includes 8 dinner tickets, 2 bottles of wine, signage and advertising. Individual tickets are available at \$80 each.

How you can support the Harvest Dinner & Dance:

- Purchase tickets or a corporate table
- Donate an item for the silent auction
- Make a direct financial contribution

Funds raised through both events support meaningful additions not covered by operational budgets, including recreational equipment, social activities, furnishings, and transportation for our residents.

Please return your Donation and/or Ticket Request Form for the Harvest Dinner to friends@grandespirit.org by September 18, 2026.

To register or learn more about the Golf Tournament, please contact Paula McGregor at (780)532-2905 ext 155 or friends@grandespirit.org

We sincerely appreciate your support.

On behalf of the Friends of the Foundation,

Paula McGregor
Friends of the Foundation

FRIENDS OF THE GRANDE SPIRIT FOUNDATION
PRESENT



DOOR
PRIZES &
SILENT
AUCTION

GOLF TOURNAMENT

FRIDAY, MAY 29TH, 2026

MORNINGVIEW PARK GOLF COURSE

REGISTRATION 11:30AM

SHOTGUN START AT 12:30PM

ENTRY FEE INCLUDES:

- 9 HOLES OF GOLF
- 2 CARTS PER TEAM
- SILENT AUCTION
- BEEF BURGER SUPPER
- DOOR PRIZES

\$125.00 PER GOLFER

TEAMS, PAIRS, OR SINGLES



TO REGISTER CALL:

Donna Mayne 780-876-6891

donnamayne48@outlook.com

Municipal Musings

Municipal Musings: May 2026 update

Budget 2026

Budget 2026 continues to support municipalities across the province. Funding under the Local Government Fiscal Framework (LGFF) is decreasing by 2.5 per cent from the 2025 level, in line with the reduction in provincial revenues between 2022-23 and 2023-24, making \$800 million available to Alberta communities. Of that, Calgary and Edmonton will receive \$423 million and remaining local governments will receive \$377 million.

Spring 2026 Legislation

Minister Williams introduced Bill 28: the Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026 on April 2, 2026. The bill proposes changes to the Municipal Government Act (MGA) and Libraries Act focused on: enabling growth and housing; assessment and property tax; governance, accountability, municipal transparency; and public institutions.

Bill 28 also proposes changes relating to aggregate pit approvals (Environment and Protected Areas) and seniors lodges (Assisted Living and Social Services).

Municipal Accountability Program (MAP)

MAP reviews are a multi-year process, ordered by the Minister under section 571 of the MGA. The program's purpose is to assist municipalities with their knowledge of mandatory legislated requirements under the MGA, aid municipalities in achieving legislative compliance, and provide a collaborative partnership between the ministry and municipalities. MAP is mandatory for municipalities with populations of 2,500 or less. Municipalities greater than 2,500 may request a Legislative Compliance Check by a resolution of council, or it may be offered by the department to support an amalgamation or administrative challenges.

MAP Cycle 1 ran from 2018-2022 and saw 216 reviews. A variety of municipalities underwent a MAP review. The second cycle of MAP is wrapping up for the 2025-2026 program year. As municipalities are also wrapping up their financial year, to help with the financial items you are currently working on or even in preparing for your next MAP Review, here are our top finance gaps the ministry noticed during the second MAP cycle, in no particular order:

1. The audited financial statements must disclose designated officer salaries and benefits as a total figure and indicate the number of designated officer positions included in that total as required by Section 1(2)(C) of the Municipal Corporate Planning Regulation.
2. The Three-Year Operating Plan must include the annual surplus/deficit and the accumulated surplus/deficit as required by Section 2(c) of the Municipal Corporate Planning Regulation 192/2017.
3. Both the Three-Year Operating & Five-Year Capital Plans do not include the financial year in which the plan was prepared as a part of each plan as per Section 263 1(344) of the MGA. Note that the current year may be included but is not counted as one of the three or five years.
4. Council is required to adopt an operating or interim operating budget prior to January 1 of that calendar year, as required by Section 242(1) of the MGA.
5. Council is required to adopt a capital budget prior to January 1 of that calendar year, as required by Section 245 of the MGA.
6. The property tax rate for the assessment of Designated Industrial Property (DIP) must follow the rate established by the Ministerial Order for that year.

Meet MA!

The Municipal Financial Advisors play a key role in the day-to-day contact with the public, municipal officials and other departments and associations. Their goal is to strengthen the capacity and sustainability of municipalities and their understanding of both routine and complex municipal financial issues through advisory support, education, and the development of resource materials. In addition, the financial advisory team performs research and analysis and provides recommendations when preparing packages relating to debt limit extensions, tax sale extensions and financial monitoring. The team evaluates processes for the review and enhancement of municipal operations across the province and ensures municipalities are offered appropriate support and resources to attain legislative compliance.

Through their work, the Financial Advisors have the pleasure and opportunity to work with most of the other units across the division providing financial reviews and analysis as needed. Their focus in the upcoming months will be to help build resources and prepare municipalities for the new changes coming to the Public Sector Accounting Standards.

If you have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out. Municipal Advisors can be reached at ma_advisory@gov.ab.ca.

Upcoming Deadlines

Financial Statements: The MGA states every municipality is legally required to prepare and submit year end audited financial statements and financial information returns to Municipal Affairs by May 1 of the reporting year. When a municipality fails to meet these obligations, ministry staff work directly with the chief administrative officer and council to bring them into compliance.

Intermunicipal Collaboration Frameworks (ICFs): Municipalities must review their current ICFs to ensure they align with the amendments made to the legislation in May 2025. This review must be completed no later than March 31, 2027, or the review date that is in their original agreement if they have not mutually agreed to extend the review to March 31, 2027. Former members of the Calgary and Edmonton growth management boards are now required to establish ICFs with each other by November 30, 2027.

If Municipal Districts (MDs) that share a common boundary mutually determine they do not require an ICF between them, the MDs must pass resolutions, notify the Minister they are opting out of the ICF requirement, and post on their website why an ICF is not required. If any party later determines an ICF is needed, it must inform the other party and together they must adopt an ICF within one year.

Municipalities may wish to reach out to the Capacity Services team at Municipal Affairs for support as they work to review, update, and/or develop their ICFs.

Phone: 780-427-2225

Email: capacity.services@municipalaffairs.gov.ab.ca

Upcoming Engagements

Information on engagements that may impact you can be found at the links below. If you have any additional questions, please contact ma_engagement@gov.ab.ca

- [Assessment Model Review Engagement](#)
- [LPRT Business Process Review and Engagement](#)
- [Sub-regional Planning engagements](#)
- [Ghost-Kananaskis Sub-regional Plan Engagement](#)
- [Flood study engagements](#)
- [Data centre levy engagement](#)
- [Police Funding Model review engagement](#)

Municipal Affairs on the Road

In March, Municipal Affairs attended the RMA Spring Convention and Alberta Municipalities Spring Municipal Leaders' Caucus. During these association events, the Minister of Municipal Affairs met with 26 municipalities.

The Minister also had a chance to meet informally with several cities, towns, and villages, across Alberta to discuss important issues related to infrastructure, municipal operations, and community concerns. Municipal Affairs attended and provided updates at the ARMAA Zonal meetings that took place across the province in April.

Resources:

[Bill 28: the Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026](#)

The information document is a summary of the key changes proposed in Bill 28: the Municipal Affairs and Housing Statutes Amendment Act, 2026.

[Annual financing report for municipalities:](#)

The report supports municipalities regarding their financial responsibilities and provides information on municipal financial returns and sample statements for municipalities and regional services commissions.

[Financial Information Return \(FIR\)](#)

The guide provides an example of a FIR using the fictional town of New Sampleford. It provides information to support municipalities in completing the required information for their financial return.

[Municipal Dashboard](#)

The municipal indicator dashboard reports the results for each indicator and displays them in one place.

[Intermunicipal Collaboration Framework Guide \(March 30, 2026\)](#)

An updated workbook, reflecting the most recent legislative amendments is now available to help municipalities develop an ICF with other municipalities, and provides tools and information based resources.

To be added to the distribution list for future newsletters please reply to the email below. For any questions, comments and feedback regarding the newsletter, please contact ma_engagement@gov.ab.ca.

EMPOWERING MINDS: Community-Wide Mental Health Event Information

Rycroft AG Society present

EMPOWERING MINDS

Community Supper and Inspiring Evening with Ian Hill on Mental Health and Collective Action

What to Expect:

- Inspiring stories of resilience and hope
- Practical tools to support mental well-being of yourself and others
- A chance to be part of a community-driven movement for change

Empowering Minds will challenge how you think about mental health and inspire you to take action. Let's create a world where no one has to suffer in silence. Together, we can make a lasting impact.



Ian Hill

Renowned humanitarian and passionate mental health advocate!

Young Adults First Identifiers Training (Ages 17-25)
June 16, 2026

First Identifiers Training Public Event
June 17, 2026

Supper @ 5:30pm MT
Event @ 6:00pm MT

Rycroft Agricultural Society
Hall @ 11055 PTH Rycroft, AB

Register Now



Savanna AG Society present

EMPOWERING MINDS

Community Supper and Inspiring Evening with Ian Hill on Mental Health and Collective Action

What to Expect:

- Inspiring stories of resilience and hope
- Practical tools to support mental well-being of yourself and others
- A chance to be part of a community-driven movement for change

Empowering Minds will challenge how you think about mental health and inspire you to take action. Let's create a world where no one has to suffer in silence. Together, we can make a lasting impact.



Ian Hill

Renowned humanitarian and passionate mental health advocate!

First Identifiers Training
June 18, 2026

Men's Breakfast
June 19, 2026

Supper @ 6:30pm
Event @ 7:00pm

Doors Open @ 7:00am
Event @ 7:30am

Savanna Recreational Complex
81378 100 Range Road, Silver Valley, AB

Register Now



SUPPORTING LOCAL STUDENTS

MD of Spirit River #133

\$1,000 BURSARY

— *Apply Now for Fall 2026* —

- *Open to MD Residents*
- *Full-Time Post-Secondary*
 - *Deadline: **July 31***

